

Mother's bitter-sweet birthday memories as £150k raised

# MILESTONE FOR JOEL'S CHARITY

Report by Pippa Armstrong

**THE mother of Tunisia terror attack victim Joel Richards says she hopes people will continue to back the charity in his name after it hit the £150,000 fundraising mark.**

Suzy Evans has told of her difficult times despite the charity milestone, as she commemorated what would have been Joel's 23rd birthday, spending an evening with his friends recalling happier times.

But it was tinged with sadness, after having recently lost her mother, Maureen, who died in May aged 74, and with her 18-year-old son Owen away at summer camp in America.

But she is urging people to support the Smile for Joel charity, which she set up with son Owen by signing up for their charity run next month.

The Run For Joel event takes place in Sandwell Valley Park on September 9 and is the charity's main annual fundraiser.

Student Joel, from Wednesbury, died alongside uncle Adrian Evans, grandfather Patrick Evans and 35 others in the terror attacks near Souise in 2015.

The 19-year-old Walsall fan, whose birthday is August 3, and who was a promising referee, was awarded a string of posthumous honours.

Suzy said: "It's been a really hard time, especially being on my own. My mum never really got over losing her husband, her only son and her grandson. She'd been in good health up to then but their deaths broke her heart. Owen has been an inspiration to us all with the way he has coped and the work he does for the charity."

"He'd signed up for Camp America for the summer and rightly stuck to his plans. So I got together with Joel's friends locally and we raised a glass to him."

Suzy is delighted to have passed the £150,000 mark in the Smile For Joel fundraising campaign, which works with the charity Victim Support to help those affected by murder and terrorism. But her main focus is to raise the total even higher with the Colour Blast Party run, a new twist to the annual fundraiser, when people can choose between 5k and 3K routes.

"Joel had done a couple of half-marathons, he would have just loved this event. It's not about winning, or times, it's about having fun," she said.

To sign up for Run For Joel, visit the website [www.smileforjoel.com](http://www.smileforjoel.com) and click on the link.

## ALL A-BOARD FOR CRACKDOWN ON CANAL LITTER



Using paddle boards to help clear litter from the canal, left, Richard Cooke, of Crewe, and right, Ben Poulton, of Walsall

LITTER-PICKERS took to the waters of a Walsall canal to help crack down on rubbish being dumped.

More than 40 volunteers were in the town at the weekend to support the national Plastic Patrol initiative.

In a single day, between 10am and 4pm, they helped remove six tons of litter from the waterways on almost a mile of canal.

Councillor Doug James, who helped out on the day, said: "There were 40 volunteers who all went out on paddle boards and picked up as much plastic as possible to help improve our environment and our

canals. We spoke to a lot of local people and everyone was delighted with the work everyone was doing from the canalside."

"We want to make it a permanent event from September onwards in Walsall."

Plastic Patrol was launched by Lizzie Carr in 2016 to help tackle the global issue of plastic pollution. The scheme tours the UK and helps remove water from canals and rivers all over.

Councillor James added: "Lizzie is famous for doing a paddle board challenge across the English Channel. She was diagnosed with cancer and fought that and

is now in remission. We're hoping to get £2,000 from the Canal & River Trust because we want to make the Plastic Patrol app."

"I'm going to be linking with local youth groups that have paddle boards but do not use them and set up a programme of plastic patrols for anybody interested."

"We filled so many bags with general litter in such a small space. Lizzie told me that it was quite clear that Walsall canals were the worst she's worked on. This is a sad indictment of how local people neglect and throw rubbish away."

## CRIME

### Black Country men jailed for murder

TWO Black Country men have been jailed for life for the murder of Hereford man Robert Eacock.

Anthony Boyd, of Circuit Close, Willenhall, and Artaf Hussain, of Slater Street, Tipton, have been sentenced to life imprisonment, with a minimum of 25 years.

Robert was stabbed in broad daylight on January 29, by drug dealer Boyd, who was in league with Hussain, who in a phone call, encouraged Boyd to harm the victim. Mr Eacock, aged 33, tried to pursue his attacker – but collapsed and later died in hospital.

In full view of passers-by, Boyd, 23, rushed towards the victim from behind and stabbed him once in the back. Boyd then ran from the scene.

The police investigation revealed that in the hours after the stabbing, Boyd left Hereford and travelled to Tipton where he met up with Hussain, 31, at the flat of an associate Luke Mansell.

Knowing the crime Boyd had committed, Mansell, 21, of High Street, Tipton, proceeded to provide him with a change of clothing. Mansell was charged with assisting an offender and entered a guilty plea at an earlier court hearing – he is yet to be sentenced.

## POLITICS

### MP launches petition for more beat police

AN MP has launched a petition asking for more bobbies on the beat on the streets of Walsall. Eddie Hughes, MP for Walsall North, is calling for there to be more front-line police officers in Willenhall, Bloxwich and Walsall North to tackle crime.

He called for support from residents on Facebook: "Working together we can fight crime and make our communities safer so you can help by clicking on the link and add your name to the petition."

"I will continue to fight for more funding and policing for Walsall North and your support will strengthen my case."

It follows a meeting at the Willenhall Chart Centre last week between PCC David Jamieson and concerned residents.

## INSIDE

### Girls in sync for pool success



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# 'Sludge' Lees funeral date announced



Ian 'Sludge' Lees

THE funeral of comedian Ian 'Sludge' Lees takes place at the end of this month, his family have revealed.

Tributes have flooded in to the star who died last week aged 74, just weeks after being diagnosed with cancer. His son, Tom Mills, announced the funeral will take place at St Mary's Church in Cannock on August 30, at 11.30am.

The service, which is open to the public, will be followed by a private cremation at Bushbury Crematorium. A wake, also open to the public, will be held at Molineux Stadium's WV1 Suite.

Mr Mills said: "We would like to invite everyone who knew Dad or who wishes to pay their respects to Dad to St Mary's and also the Molineux afterwards.

"Dad spend his life performing to large crowds, making them laugh and I know he would have wanted his funeral to be a celebration of his life with lots in attendance."

'Sludge' was born and grew up in Cannock, first appearing as a singing act at pubs in the town aged just 10. In the 1970s he changed his career path to become a comedian, and appeared on

television shows such as New Faces and Tiswas. In 1992, he became part of Granada TV's The Comedians.

He then toured the Midlands circuit for the next 26 years. Fan John Lowman started a group on Facebook in appreciation of the comedian nine years ago.

He said: "I first met Ian in the late 70s and quickly spotted what a nice warm person he was. I thought he was as funny off-stage as on. In fact it didn't matter if he was performing on-stage to 500 or a couple of mates at a bar he would give it 100 per cent every time."

# Patient started fire in room at hospital

**A PATIENT at Walsall Manor barricaded himself into a room before setting it on fire.**

Health bosses have revealed the terrifying moment 'flames were high and the ceiling lights were buckling under the heat'.

Following the incident, quick-thinking staff who saved the man's life and put out the fire have been praised.

Ward 17 Manager Michelle Crutchley and Sister Michelle Williams sprang into action when a patient with mental health issues barricaded himself into a side room and set fire to clothes which quickly spread to a chair and his bed.

They also reassured other patients and stopped the blaze spreading to other areas.

In a stroke of luck Ms Crutchley had only done a fire training course at Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust the day before.

She explained: "The fire was started around 7am and I think both Michelle and I just went into coping mode - helped by some of our other fantastic colleagues.

"Our Sister Dicelyn Gante managed to get through the barricaded door, cut the patient free from his drip and drag him to safety while Michelle and I fought the fire.

"The flames were high; the ceiling lights were buckling in the heat and there was a lot of smoke.

"I'd only been on a fire training course the day before so it goes to show how important it is to know what type of extinguisher to use and how to react according to the type of fire."

Ms Williams added: "We're a respiratory ward so you can imagine the effect that smoke would have had on our patients."

Both carried on working their shift but admitted that the shock of what had happened did hit them a while later.

West Midlands Fire service commended their actions and said the fire could have potentially resulted in the death of the patient.

It could also have spread to the rest of the ward if they hadn't acted so quickly.

## Synchronised swimmers celebrate



Members of Walsall Synchronised Swimming Club, including (front) Casey Clews, aged 11 celebrate

MEMBERS of a swimming club in Walsall went up against some 650 competitors to take runners-up spot in a national competition.

Swimmers from Walsall Synchronised Swimming Club in Tower Street claimed overall second place at the Synchro Combo Cup event at London Aquatics Centre.

More than 700 swimmers from 88 teams from 34 clubs across the

country took part in the competition, with City of Salford coming out on top.

Amy Baker, Walsall Synchronised Swimming Club's head coach, said: "The Combo Cup was a national competition. We finished second which was a massive achievement. The plan was to win but we were proud and pleased with the girls and how they swam.

"We had about about 60 girls compete. It's the end of a lot of hard work."

They train four days a week to 'get things right' and will be starting to train once again for the upcoming competitions.

The focus will be on the Midland Age Group Championship for Synchronised Swimming in October 6 at Walsall Gala Baths.

# Magistrates' numbers are down third in 3 years

THE number of magistrates in the Black Country has plummeted by more than a third in just three years - one of the steepest drops across the whole of England and Wales.

Across the region there are 233 fewer magistrates than there were in 2015, with budget cuts and recruitment problems blamed for the reduction.

The figures have prompted warnings that the dwindling numbers could hinder the administration of justice, with magistrates increasingly sitting in benches of two rather than three due to shortages.

Figures from the Courts and Tribunals Judiciary show that in the Black Country, there are 259 magistrates currently sitting in the area, compared with 411 three years ago.

Chief executive Jon Collins said: "Three people will always be able to make better decisions. These situations should not be normalised, particularly for decisions of innocence or guilt."

Independent charity Transform Justice said that two-person benches are a serious problem.

Charity director and former magistrate Penelope Gibbs, said: "In these cases the bench is likely to be less diverse, and decisions not as fair."

# Chamber autumn Expo in Walsall

THE Black Country Chamber of Commerce is holding its Autumn Expo at Walsall Football Club's Banks's Stadium. More than 60 exhibitors and 500 delegates from across the region are expected to take part.

The chamber is inviting members to take stands for the exhibition on October 11 from 9am to 1pm and register at <https://www.blackcountrychamber.co.uk/bcc-events/exhibitions>

Corin Crane, the chamber's chief executive, said: "To ensure that this year's Expo is the biggest and best yet, we will be taking over the digital advertising boards overlooking the M6 in the run up to the event, which have a potential reach of up to three million people per fortnight. So, make sure you don't miss out on what promises to be a great day."

Delegate places are free of charge to businesses in Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton and people can register to attend or turn up on the day.

# Homes on way

A PLAN to build more than 400 Black Country homes is a step closer after a full application was lodged by developers. Countryside wants to create 421 homes on 27 acres of the Bilston Urban Village site.

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# Liquidation now in final phase for Carillion

THE liquidation of Carillion has entered its final stages, the Official Receiver has revealed, with the last of its contracts taken over by new companies.

More than 400 people have been transferred along with the new contracts, bringing the number of jobs saved following the collapse to 13,945 – nearly three in four of the original workforce.

But another nine will leave this week, bringing the total job losses at the construction and services giant to 2,787.

Another 240 staff are being kept on to handle paperwork and ensure companies supplying Carillion during the liquidation will be paid. Around 120 of them are based at the company's former Wolverhampton head offices in Salop Street. It is not known how long their jobs will last. Carillion collapsed in January after the Government refused to bail the company out.

The Official Receiver called in accountants PwC to act as special managers of the process, which involved finding new companies to take over hundreds of Carillion contracts, including 450 with Government departments.

These contracts were kept running to ensure essential public services across hospitals, schools, roads, rail and elsewhere were maintained.

But work on the Midland Metropolitan Hospital at Smethwick was brought to a halt and remains stalled. Latest estimates are that may now open four years late, in 2022.

In an update the Official Receiver said agreements to transfer the last of 278 contracts provided by Carillion to new service providers were now in place "signalling the end of the trading phase of the liquidation."

# Trains cancelled by gas main fire

TRAINS were cancelled just ahead of rush hour after a gas main caught fire in Walsall.

Crews from West Midlands Fire Service attended the incident in Wednesbury Road in Bescot last week after reports of a minor fire under a railway bridge.

A spokesman for the service said firefighters made the scene safe and then stood by while the gas board dealt with the incident.

Trains running on the Walsall and Chase line were cancelled due to the fire into the evening.

West Midlands Railway kept passengers updated on alternative services via social media, after some people shared their frustration on Twitter.

# Call to put problem tenants in one area

A Sandwell councillor has called for nightmare neighbours to be housed in one area – and away from 'nice streets'. Council bosses want new tenants to sign 'good behaviour' contracts to help prevent incidents of abuse, crime and intimidation.

The new conditions were explained at a meeting of the authority's Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board last week following a call from Councillor Maria Crompton for problem families to be housed together.

The meeting was told there were

3,018 incidents of anti-social behaviour reported to police and the borough council last year, of which 426 were investigated further.

The new tenancy condition is part of a series of measures to crackdown on problems which range from abusive language to threats and intimidation.

Calling for abusive neighbours to be put in one area, Councillor Crompton highlighted families who had been evicted for anti-social behaviour then moved into new homes and blighted the area. She said: "You can have a street where families have been liv-

ing for 30 or 40 years with no problems. Then an abusive family, who have been thrown out from elsewhere, move in and ruin the area."

She added: "If you have been thrown out because of anti-social behaviour, you should not be going into nice streets. I would rather that we had all the problems in one place than wreck those we have no problems with."

Alan Caddick, director of housing, said officers were now carrying out follow-up visits and checking on tenants in an attempt to prevent prob-

lems emerging. He added: "One of the things we are doing is renewing tenancy agreements and putting in a good behaviour contract, so everyone who signs up to a property with us will be expected to follow a good neighbour policy. We then need to do more work following that up and ensuring that it is abided by."

In addition, each of Sandwell's six towns will have a designated officer to deal with incidents and a borough wide anti-social behaviour manager is being recruited to drive forward improvements.

# Fight for subtitles by deaf film fan Briar, 11

## Tributes to Great War fallen



Captain Richard Jones and W01 Tony Hopkins, of the Mercian regiment, at the memorial

ON the exact day 104 years ago that Britain declared war on Germany, people gathered to remember their sacrifice at a special open-air service. A plaque to those from Bilston, Ettingshall and Bradley who died in the First World War and other conflicts was unveiled on August 4 by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant Sylvia Parkin.

The memorial marks the re-dedication of the Portland stone cross which is to be restored to its former glory before this year's Remembrance ceremony in November.

The ceremony closely followed the original

service of dedication in 1921, including the singing of the National Anthem and Abide With Me and the sounding of the Last Post.

The lesson was read by Councillor Steve Simkins, chairman of the Bilston Remembrance Group, set up four years ago to ensure those who gave their lives locally are appropriately honoured.

Since then 50 local people who died in the conflict but whose names do not appear on any town memorial have come to their notice.

It is planned to have them added, once verified, before Remembrance Day.

## A DEVASTATED 11-year-old deaf girl is fighting for subtitles with movies after being let down at one of a town's main cinemas.

In a heartfelt letter to the Light Cinema in Walsall town centre, Briar Hickenbottom-Marriot says she feels excluded, claiming it is discrimination against her.

It comes after the cinema fanatic missed part of Incredibles 2 when the cinema failed to feature subtitles despite the family being told they would be on. This comes alongside other films



Briar at the Light Cinema

The letter from Briar reads: 'I am very sad. I am deaf and I need subtitles to access any film. A few weeks ago I went to your cinema to see Incredibles because it was subtitled but you did not put the subtitles on and I missed the first 15 minutes of the film while my dad talked to the manager. This is not fair.'

'I have been waiting to see Antman and The Wasp. My dad emailed you to ask when you will show it subtitled and you told him there were no plans to show it subtitled. Are you kidding me? Do you know what the equality act is? I live in Walsall and I want to go to my local cinema and spend money on my local facilities. You are excluding me. This is discrimination. One in six people are deaf.'

Briar was born with Goldenhar Syndrome which has means she has been deaf from birth but she knows sign language and can speak. She is a big film fan and dreams of being an actress one day.

Her mother, Leanne, is chief executive at Sandwell Deaf Community Association. She said: "This is a national

problem for deaf people, it is not just at this cinema.

"They show one subtitled film a week but if that film is Mission Impossible which has an 18 rating then she cannot go to see that movie."

"I am trying to get her to be independent for when me and her father cannot be around her but it is so hard without the infrastructure in place. I do not want her to think there is anything she cannot do."

Phil Dove, operations manager, said the cinema shows at least one subtitled movie every week but does not plan its coverage in advance. He added: "The film was not scheduled for that week. We cater for people needing subtitles, we are autism friendly, dementia friendly and baby friendly. We consider ourselves a major leader in lots of these areas."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Police in search for killer driver

POLICE are searching for a driver who fled the scene after a crash that killed a teenager in Walsall.

A 17-year-old boy died after the VW Golf he is believed to have been a passenger in ploughed into parked cars and a lamp post in Weston Street, Falfrey.

Officers are now trying to trace the Golf's driver, who is thought to have fled after crashing shortly after midnight last Thursday. The 17-year-old, from Malvern in Worcestershire, was found collapsed near the scene of the crash with multiple serious injuries, including to his head.

He was taken Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham where he was later pronounced dead. Two 14-year-old female passengers were also injured.

Anyone who witnessed the crash, or who has information about the driver, is asked to contact the Serious Collision Investigation Unit on 101 quoting log 36 from August 2.

### Ramblers set for weekend walks

THE Walsall Group of the Ramblers have a busy weekend ahead of them.

Firstly on Saturday, they are Shropshire bound for a four-mile shorter walk at Badger Dingle.

The meeting point is Oak Park car park on Lichfield Road at 9.30am. This walk is part of a programme of short Saturday walks that run fortnightly. For details, call the walk leader on 01922 413309.

Then on Sunday, it's time for the Warwickshire countryside, with a 10-mile circular walk around Tanworth-in-Arden, taking in the historical sites of Umberslade Park almost to Hockley Heath returning via the Ullenhall area.

Non-members are always welcome. More information can be obtained from the walk leader on 01922 692929. The group's website is www.walsallramblers.org.uk.

### Tribute to rockers Bon Jovi at Robin

AN international tribute act to rockers Bon Jovi comes to the region this month. Bon Jovi are appearing at the Robin 2 in Bilston on August 24.

Fronted by Gary Williams, the band have toured extensively around the UK as well as in more than 26 countries around the world – including Germany, Slovenia and Norway.

Bon Jovi will perform hits such as Living On A Prayer, It's My Life and Wanted Dead or Alive.

Tickets for the show cost £12.50 in advance or £14 on the door. They can be booked online by visiting www.theobin.co.uk or calling the box office on 01902 401211. Doors open at 7.30pm.

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### Third 'can't afford to pay upfront'

MORE than a third of people say they cannot afford to pay for items or bills in one go, a survey has found.

Some 36 per cent of people say they do not have enough funds to pay bills upfront in a single lump sum, Nationwide Home Insurance found.

Despite the potential to make savings by paying that way, rather than spreading the cost in some cases, nearly a fifth of people surveyed said no amount of money saving would encourage them to pay their bills in one go, rising to nearly a quarter of over-55s.

Less than a third of people opt to pay for bills and policies upfront.

### A taste of Italy at town festival

FOOD connoisseurs and car fanatics are invited to a celebration of all things Italian. The Continental Market and Italian Auto Moto Festival, organised by Savoir Fayre, is heading to Bridgnorth on September 2.

The town's High Street will be transformed into a mix of Mediterranean food and classic motors.

Conrad Murray, spokesman for the organisers, said: "We work hard to create an international atmosphere so people can enjoy exotic flavours and unusual aromas and delight in products they might not otherwise see or buy everyday." The festival takes place from 9am until 4pm.

### Gin lovers can enjoy festival

GIN lovers will have the opportunity to enjoy up to 15 tipples from the UK and overseas during an 11-day festival at two pubs.

The Linford Arms in High Green, Cannock, and Hedgeford Lodge in Anglesey Street, Hednesford, will both be serving gins from Japan, Portugal, Spain, Germany and Italy, as well as the UK. The festival will run from August 17 to August 27. The gins will range in price from £2.70 to £4.20 for a single measure, with a free mixer.

### More fly with Ryanair, in spite of setbacks

BUDGET airline Ryanair saw passenger numbers rise four per cent to 13.1 million last month. The airline, which operates flights from Birmingham Airport, said that its aeroplanes were 97 per cent full on average.

The rise came despite pilot and cabin crew strikes, adverse weather and air traffic control staff shortages which caused more than 1,000 flight cancellations in July.

# Families hope to top 100,000 signatures



Stabbed – Ryan Passey

THEY were both innocent young men on nights out with friends – but both suffered the same horrific fate.

Reagan Asbury was stabbed in the neck during fighting between rival boxing fans outside Walsall Town Hall last October.

Ryan Passey was knifed in the chest during a fracas in the former Chicago's nightclub in Stourbridge a year ago, with the anniversary of the tragedy passing on Monday this week.

Both families then went through the emotional torment of enduring long trials, which finally ended without murder convictions.

In 19-year-old Reagan's case, Tyrone Andrew was cleared of murder, but found guilty of manslaughter and jailed for 14 years.

And in 24-year-old Ryan's case, Kobe Murray, 19, of The Broadway, Dudley, was cleared of murder and manslaughter.

A memorial match for Ryan

will take place between Wolves All-Stars and a 'Justice for Ryan' team on September 30.

The event will be held at Stourbridge FC and will be preceded by a march organisers hope will act as a demonstration against knife crime.

The family also want the law changed to allow victim's families to appeal against jury rulings.

A petition, as a result of their campaign, has almost 20,000 signatures.

If it reaches 100,000, their cause will get debated in Parliament.

Now, the family of Reagan have added their names to the online signature list.

Reagan's sister, 24-year-old Elysia, said: "There must be an opportunity to appeal against a jury's ruling."

"When a case is so serious it cannot be left to one chance."

To sign the petition, go to [change.org/p/justice-for-ryan-ryan-s-law](http://change.org/p/justice-for-ryan-ryan-s-law)

# I want justice for my Reagan, says mother

Report by Alex Ross

**'A PARAMEDIC looked at me – the look a mum would give to another mum, I knew it was bad then'**

Fighting back tears Reagan Asbury's heartbroken mother has spoken out for the first time since her young son was stabbed to death as trouble broke out after a boxing match in the Black Country.



Reagan Asbury

Helen Kirwan and the rest of the family were hoping to raise a glass to seeing justice done for 19-year-old Reagan following the trial of his killer Tyrone Andrew.

But the jury cleared the 22-year-old drug dealer, of St Helens Street, Derby, of murder instead finding him guilty of manslaughter and sentencing him to 14 years in prison. He could be out in seven years.

#### Appeal

The verdict has rocked Reagan's family – including his father Julian and sisters Elysia and Fharen – who had all been expecting a sentence of at least 25 years for Andrew.

His determined mother says the fight for justice now goes on for her son – a former Ormiston Sheffield Academy pupil – who was knifed in the neck from behind.

She and her family now want a change of law to allow an appeal against the jury's decision to clear killer Andrew of murder. The 48-year-old, said: "Something went seriously wrong. We are all overwhelmed. He



Reagan's girlfriend Georgia Seedhouse, mother Helen Kirwan, father Julian and his sisters, Elysia, 24, and Fharen, 14

admitted putting the knife in Reagan's neck."

Miss Kirwan last saw her son alive, leaving their Pelsall home to watch the boxing match featuring local fighter Luke Paddock on October 14.

Trouble erupted outside the town hall after the bout between Paddock and opposing fighter Derby-based Myron Mills's fans.

A seven-week trial at Birmingham Crown Court saw chilling footage of Andrew creeping up behind his victim 'like an animal stalking prey' before knifing him in the neck. Reagan's mother received a call from her sister, also at the event, telling her that her son was hurt.

She rushed to the scene with Julian. She said: "I did think he was

hurt, but not in that way and when I got there they [paramedics] were already working on him."

"The paramedics did that much CPR it was unreal. A paramedic looked at me – the look a mum would give to another mum, I knew it was bad then." She added: "God must have taken him – he got taken out of life so quickly."

They had heard claims from Andrew, who fled the country after the attack, that he was acting in self-defence while trying to get away from a 'racist mob'.

Reagan's sister Elysia, 24, said: "We want the right to appeal for a retrial."

"We genuinely thought, because of knife crime going up, that the case

would make an example, we thought we would be walking out that court room with him (Andrew) getting at least a 25-year sentence. Not that he would be out in seven years."

Under current law, convicted offenders can appeal over jury's rulings and sentences, but victims and their families cannot.

Meanwhile, Reagan's football jacket and boots are hanging in the conservatory, his car parked in the garden and the towel he left after his last shower, untouched.

The teenager's home, a converted garage in the family's back garden in Pelsall, is as it was the fateful evening he left to watch a boxing match.

"I can't clean anything, because I'm scared I'll wash him away," says his mother Helen, surrounded by framed pictures of her popular son.

"I feel like he should still be coming to walk through the door in any moment."

Reagan had played for his football team, Pelsall United where he had overcome his fear of taking penalties, scoring the winning spot kick in a victory for his team.

He returned home beaming. And later he got ready to go out.

He was last seen by his mother getting into his girlfriend Georgia's brother's car, smiling from ear to ear. But later things would go very wrong.

Declan Kemp-Francis, 23, of Derby, was acquitted of violent disorder but found guilty of assisting Andrew by driving him to Derby. Ryandeep Sidhu, 22, also from Derby, was found guilty of assisting Andrew by taking the knife. Both were jailed for 30 months.

Reagan's father Julian, aged 51, said of the jury's verdict: "It felt like Reagan's life meant nothing."

"We can't accept that. The case gives the green light for knife crime."

# Nothing will fill gap left by death of my brother – Elysia, 24

THE heartbroken sister of Reagan Asbury says 'nothing will ever be enough' to fill the gap left by the death of her brother.

Elysia, aged 24, said: "My family and I will have to live with the devastating consequences of Tyrone Andrew's careless and brutal actions for the rest of our lives. Reagan isn't coming back and that's something we'll never be able to get over."

"My brother was a remarkable character. You always felt his presence when he entered into a room – always laughing, joking, always had a smile on his face, and so calm. He was wise beyond his years."

"Even though I'm his older sister I used to go to him for advice"

"He had a positive impact on anyone he came into contact with."

She said the impact on the whole family had been devastating.

"There's been a void in our life that will be there for the rest of our lives," she said.



Elysia Asbury

#### Culture

"It will always be empty. In our house, his car is still on the drive, I walk past his bedroom, his coat is hanging up in the hallway, his shoes – it just feels so fresh and that actually he's going to come back through the door any minute – that's how it feels."

Elysia urged people to stop carrying knives: "It wrecks lives, it wrecks communities."

For some reason people think they need to leave the house with a knife. I don't know where that comes from. I don't know whether it's the culture that needs to change, I don't know whether it's society's attitude that needs to change, I don't know if it's the legal system, if it's tougher sentences."

I don't know what needs to change but something needs to be done because young people are carrying knives now and people don't seem to be listening or abiding by the law."

"That's something that I will concentrate on and campaign for – to stop."

She added: "Reagan had a positive impact on every single person he came into contact with, and will continue to do so. His legacy will live on."

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## Birth control staff ranked top in UK

AN emergency contraception service in Walsall has been ranked top out of 146 in the country.

Staff from Walsall integrated Sexual Health (WiSH) took part in the FRSH (Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare) emergency contraception benchmarking audit which ran from January to April this year.

Out of 146 services – which included 96 specialist services and 53 GP services – Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust was ranked first place. The audit focused on four standards for services providing emergency contraception to benchmark their practice against other services in the UK.

## Audi and BMW stolen overnight

AN Audi and a BMW were stolen in an overnight car key burglary. The two sports cars were taken sometime between Wednesday night and Thursday morning after a home on Redhouse Lane, Walsall, was targeted.

Police say the offenders gained entry to the rear, searched downstairs and, having located the keys to the vehicles, exited through a door with the key left next to the door.

They then made their getaway with the two vehicles parked at the front.

Kevin Pitt, from Walsall Police, said advised householders to always close and lock downstairs windows whilst in bed.

## Regional ales are stars of festival

MANY breweries from the Black Country and Staffordshire will have ales featured at the Great British Beer Festival taking place this week.

More than 1,000 beers, ciders and perries are on sale at the Campaign for Real Ale festival which is taking place in Olympia, in west London from Tuesday to August 11.

Among the breweries sending beer are Backyard Brewhouse, Brownhills; Beowulf, Chasewater; Enville; Fixed Wheel, Blackheath; Fownes, Upper Gornal; Holden's, Woodsetton; Kinver; Sadler's, Lye and Slater's, Stafford.

## Man charged over series of robberies

A MAN has been charged with with 12 robberies as well as a burglary and drugs possession.

Jamie Littleton, aged 43, and from Poplar Avenue, Willenhall, has appeared in court and been remanded in prison to appear at Wolverhampton Crown Court on August 20. Police say it follows a series of robberies in Walsall recently, including three purse snatches in the Beechdale area.

# Chairman: Wolves may be leaving Molineux

WOLVES could leave their Molineux home of 129 years and build a new stadium elsewhere, chairman Jeff Shi has revealed.

The club needs to make a decision on whether to stay at Molineux by the end of the season, he said.

Wolves are looking at how to expand the stadium if they stay in the Premier League. They have plans to double the South Bank in size to a single-tier 10,000-seater stand.

That work is due to start next summer and it was previously thought there were no plans to leave Molineux.

However, Shi told FC Business that Wolves will soon have to make a decision on whether to stay at Molineux. He said: "I think by the end of the season we will make some crucial decisions on whether to expand the stadium or build a new stadium.

"Molineux is important for the fans of course and we are looking at it and have architects looking at designs. The stadium is in the centre of the city; there is no space to expand the stadium too much. We are talking about the maximum size of the stadium, maybe 40,000, 45,000 or 50,000."

Managing director Laurie Dalrymple clarified Wolves' position, saying: "Whilst we have always been clear about our ambition to grow Wolves on and off the pitch, leaving Molineux would always be a last resort for us."

## Delays after lorry and cars in crash

MOTORISTS faced long delays after a crash on the M5 blocked the motorway in both directions.

The accident happened between Junctions 1 and 2 where a major roadworks scheme is under way at Oldbury Viaduct. No-one is believed to have been injured in the incident which took place last Wednesday.

A lorry and two cars were involved in the smash between West Bromwich and Oldbury at around 7.30am.

Traffic backed up three miles northbound to Halesowen at Junction 3 with delays reported of around 30 minutes. And the route was heavily congested southbound past the M6 link at Great Barr towards Junction 10 at Walsall with long queues of up to an hour.

## Listen tattoo EP

A WALSALL band is launching their latest EP on Saturday evening, at Eerie Ink Tattoo Studio in George Street. The Martians Social Club, will be launching 'Homunculus', which will be available to buy as a CD.

# Record sales for designer Luke's Villa kit



Villa fan – Walsall designer Luke Roper

ASTON Villa's new kit, produced by a fashion brand run by a Walsall designer, has recorded record sales – outperforming launch sales over the last five seasons.

The new home, away and goalkeeping shirt have been designed by LUKE 1977, run by Luke Roper. And the Birmingham-based football club say sales are up almost 750 per cent over the past two seasons across all three kits since becoming available.

Retail contracts manager Rasoul Didarzadeh spoke of an 'unbelievable appetite' for the strips from Villa's

fanbase and a 'huge determination' within the club to bring forward the next batch of stock. It comes as the club revealed it had sold stock for eight weeks in just under two.

The incredible sales have led to a shortage in the Villa Store and from the online store too in certain sizes – but the club vows it is working hard to rectify the situation.

As it stands, Villa are expecting new stock at the end of August due to the fact that it has already been dispatched from source, but club chiefs are working hard to speed up

the process once it arrives in the UK. Mr Roper, a lifelong supporter of the club, said seeing his team play in a kit designed by his brand LUKE 1977 will be an 'amazing feeling'.

"My love of Aston Villa started when I was five years old. My first football memory was May 26 1982, it was Rotterdam on the TV at Walsall Wood, Holly Lane," he said.

"The Claret and Blue colours for me are the most iconic in my head. They resonate with me. When I see the Luke lion next to the Villa crest next season will be an amazing feeling."

# Charity match boosts Isabella funding hopes



Isabella Lyttle and Lee Hendrie, who played in the match

**A FUNDRAISING campaign to help a brave girl battling cancer get treatment benefited from a £2,700 boost thanks to a charity football match.**

Walsall legend Chris Marsh organised the match in aid of 10-year-old Isabella Lyttle, of Walsall, who was diagnosed with neuroblastoma eight years ago.

She is battling the rare childhood cancer for the fourth time and hopes

to raise £155,000 to receive treatment in America.

To boost the fundraising, Chris – who was primarily a fullback during his time playing for the Saddlers, but played in various positions – made up a team with other Midlands stars including Lee Hendrie, Richard Sneekes, Daryl Burgess, David Busst, Craig Pead, John Williams, Brian Small and Gordon Cowans to name a few.

They played against a team made up of employees from ERF Electrical Wholesalers in Cannock and local side Sheffield Veterans at St Michael's



Midland footballing stars, with players from ERF Electrical Wholesalers Sheffield Veterans

Football Club, in Church Road, Sutton Coldfield on Sunday July 29.

Her father Mark Lyttle said: "Despite the rain, it was a fantastic day and everybody turned up."

"We were chuffed. There were a lot of people there watching and Isabella was well enough to go out."

### Rough

"She loved meeting them, they were lovely blokes and they really made a fuss of her."

"The players were touched when

they were speaking to her. She has had a rough few weeks but the doctors did everything they could to get her out in time so she could do her last day at school."

"The memory should not be taken away and thankfully she made it."

"We are looking forward to the summer holidays when she has no treatment and we can go away for a bit."

Isabella recently graduated from St Francis Catholic Primary School in Sheffield and will be spending the summer on holiday in Wales and Scotland.

### ADVERTISEMENT

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## IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



# Uni needs a reality check on research

OF course, I would never suggest our universities are dumbing down, but could you imagine – even a generation ago – the renowned London School of Economics publishing a piece of research on the Kardashians?

All right, the Kardashians weren't around then, but you get my drift. Anyhow, the esteemed academics say that watching 'materialistic' reality programmes such as Keeping Up With the Kardashians and Made in Chelsea has made Britain a more mean-spirited country, less sympathetic to generous welfare payments.

Now, I've never watched either, but I can't help but think it is more documentaries such as Benefits Street, and their portrayal of feckless layabouts with giant televisions that rub people up the wrong way about the welfare state. As for the Kardashians I would have thought serial benefit claimants were a key component of their target audience.

□□□

MEANWHILE, Alastair Jarvis, the chief of Britain's universities, says it would be 'elitist and regressive' to impose a cap on the number of degree places.

Of course he does. I'm sure he believes everybody, no matter how dim, should have a completely unfettered right to shell out £27,000 in tuition fees over three years.

However, one of the things I learned from my time studying economics is that the value of anything is determined by supply and demand. So, in economic terms, the whole point of university is to get a qualification which is in demand but limited in supply. So if university places are unlimited, that means the degrees are practically worthless.

□□□

FLY-tipping is one of the great scourges of our time. So you would think that any council crackdown on fly-tipping is a good thing. But you know somebody in local government will prove otherwise.

And it is Waltham Forest Council in Essex, who fined roofer Stuart Gosling £300 for carrying unlicensed waste in his van. And the waste in question? Building rubble? Rusting bedstead? Toxic chemicals?

Well, no, it was a few empty crisp packets left over from his lunch, which he planned to put in the bin. But because he had used the wrong type of bag, he was deemed to have committed an offence.

Great, so now local councils are actually fining people for taking their litter home. Nice work, jobsworths.

## Air could turn blue over misuse of parking badges



What next? Wonder was that the billboard was put up in the first place



Jeremy Clarkson – and the list of disgusting things you can find in used cars



Brexit negotiations – and Michel Barnier's continuing struggle with the 'law'

# Disabled? You just leapt out of your car!

YOU may have noticed a new crop of stickers appearing in the rear windows of cars. The message goes something like: "No, I don't look disabled - but then you don't look pig-ignorant." These waspish little banners mark the opening salvo in a new phase of Britain's worsening car-parking war. It began some years ago when the suspicion grew that blue badges, supposedly issued only to people with real mobility problems, were being used dishonestly by some able-bodied drivers to use disabled parking places. If you can barely walk, it must be galling to find "your" space taken by someone who leaps out of the car and briskly strides away. From next year, expect more friction as people with "hidden disabilities" such as autism and mental-health issues are granted blue badges, increasing the number from about 2.4 million to four million.

GARDENING corner. Guess how deep the rain penetrated the soil in the garden at Chateau Rhodes after two days of rain? Just two inches. It may look wet but scrape the surface and the dust is down there.

NEWS priorities. No, I can't explain why five deaths in a California wildfire are deemed more important to the news channels than 60 deaths in flooding in India.

I WAS impressed with the BBC reporter, whose name I missed, interviewing a farmer about the drought. Too many hacks work from a script, asking a list of questions like a robot, instead of letting the conversation flow. In this

## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



case, it flowed in a heartbeat from misery to joy as the farmer, having described his sub-standard crop, of wheat added "but at least it's better than last year." And then he waxed lyrical about what a washout the summer of 2017 was and how glorious are the sunsets of the summer of 2018. And, yes, his yields might be down 20 per cent but he's got the harvest in earlier than ever and now he's having that rarest of farming events – a holiday. According to the old saying you'll never see a dead donkey or a happy farmer. Well done, Auntie, for finding one of them.

BREXIT may be tangled but it is happening. I passed a delivery lorry piled high with new cars and not one of those cars had a number plate with the EU symbol.

I HAVE done the deed and bought another old banger, ending a long line of diesels and returning to the petrol fold. And I can think of no better example of the term "sod's law" than buying a second-hand vehicle on the very same day that Jeremy Clarkson wrote a column about testing the interiors of used cars.

ACCORDING to Clarkson, the experts examining the old cars found "a thin veneer of mucus, significant traces of faecal matter and

enough dried blood to suggest someone had been beheaded in there." Plus other stuff unsuitable for a family newspaper. Having read Clarkson's piece, I gave my new pride and joy another good scrub. Yeah, I'm sure it's just mud . . .

AND back to the Brexit negotiations and Michel Barnier's continuing struggle with the law. Not with the principle of the law, that is, but the pronunciation. Like so many French who speak otherwise excellent English, his version of "law" comes out sounding like "low." Which is a bit awkward if you're profession is trying to reconcile EU law with English law.

THE French at least have no trouble with the English name for a small settlement. That particular heffalump trap is the one that catches Germans who, in the middle of delivering a word-perfect speech in English, will suddenly refer to a village.

WE Brits are, of course, the worst linguists in Europe and are duly sniggered at by all. A tip: never, ever let a French person hear you say "cul-de-sac."

THE billboard that caused such a fuss at Wolverhampton University, showing a young white woman facing a group of black children with the motto: "If you want to explore new worlds. Start here" fell straight into the white-saviour trap and was duly denounced in a twitter-storm of academic outrage. The wonder was that the billboard was put up in the first place. Whatever next? A poem by Rudyard Kipling?

## TALKING POINT



# Parking: 999 staff are not above law

ATTACKS on medical staff – both verbal and physical – together with damage caused to ambulances are, sadly, becoming all too frequent.

Two high-profile cases include a woman in Stoke-on-Trent who left an abusive note on an ambulance parked outside her home while medics attended an emergency, and one in Birmingham which saw a paramedic threatened and abused while treating a sick patient. Last month crews were attacked with bricks while responding to a false claim that a 13-year-old girl was in cardiac arrest.

For any member of the emergency services, simply carrying out their duties, this kind of behaviour is sick, abhorrent, and one can only hope that those responsible are never in need of life-saving treatment.

However, much has been made about the ambulance staff given a parking ticket for stopping on double yellow lines while the occupants got out to buy a drink.

The warden responsible has been reprimanded and the firm he works for, Euro Parking Services, suspended from carrying out patrols by the landowners. The firm did apologise and admitted the ticket should not have been issued.

But am I the only one thinking the warden was right, and that he too was only doing his job? He argued that an ambulance should only park on double yellow lines in an emergency situation.

The medics, overworked I agree, needed a drink after hours on the road. No problem. Staff said the vehicle was too wide for regular bays and did not want to use a disabled space. An admirable stance. And I know that all NHS staff, and Armed Services personnel, perform heroic tasks. But does this mean they should be allowed to act above the law? Does it give them the right to park where they want even when not on emergency calls?

After all, if it was any ordinary Joe, there would be no extenuating circumstances.

The British Parking Association's code of contact advises its members to "respect the needs of the emergency services" and allow them to carry out their duties without enforcement action being taken against them. The code states: "This means that you must not issue parking charge notices to liveried vehicles being used for operational fire, police or ambulance purposes."

There is a danger here, though, that this could lead to more confrontation. While I respect and admire our medics for the job they do and would never condone attacks or abuse, I think there should be more consideration on their part, too.

MARK SHIPP

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# Blackmail and bullying from Brussels

I SEEM to detect a note of sneering and smugness against the people of this country who voted to leave the EU by your regular correspondent Roger Watts.

Mr Watts, along with many other die-hard remainers seem to be content to be blackmailed, bullied, threatened and intimidated by the bully-boys of Brussels they so admire instead of supporting their own countrymen and women. I wonder if they would allow their neighbours to behave in this manner towards their own families.

It is not surprising that the Brussels bureaucrats treat us with contempt and disrespect as certain individuals and politicians have no respect for themselves, crawling to these vile people on their stomachs for the few crumbs they decide to throw at us.

Shame on the politicians and people alike who have allowed the EU to surround our country with barbed wire pulled tighter and tighter to squeeze the very life out of us.

Shame on those who have rubbed the noses in the dirt of the men and

women who fought in two world wars and lost their lives to keep this country free from tyranny and dictatorship.

These people had dignity and pride and a love of their country. It's a pity this has all but disappeared resulting in the fact that we have become a society of wimps and whingers, frightened of our own shadows.

What was it Hilary Clinton said? A basket of deplorables? I couldn't have put it better myself.

MR C A HARRIS  
Willenhall

## Experts out once more on Brexit

IS anyone else as sick and tired as me of hearing about Brexit? (Yes, me! - Ed)

Never before have we voted and then continued to discuss the result for over two years and are even trying to overturn it.

I appreciate the remainers are worried and concerned for the future as we plunge into the unknown, but we had a clear majority on a huge turnout at the polls.

Does anyone remember the bird flu epidemic? Armageddon for us all according to experts.

The Millennium bug? Disaster, again, they said.

Now the experts are at it once more on Brexit.

Does anyone really want to stay in a club that has treated us so contemptuously in negotiations?

So back to the experts, where were you when the banks nearly wrecked the world?

Didn't see that disaster coming did you clever clogs?

RON PLANT  
Bilston

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### POST

Walsall Chronicle,  
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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

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## My total distrust of PM in negotiations

SINCE the EU referendum, this paper has published a few of my letters concerning my total distrust of the Prime Minister to deliver a five-point Brexit that I and 17.4 million others voted for.

From her first day as PM she has successfully betrayed and deluded us with her false promises. She filled her Cabinet with remainers, just like herself, taken civil servant remainers into all negotiations with Barnier etc.

She never had any intention of getting us out of the EU and as each week passes, this becomes more evident.

Her ignoring of the advice given by Davis and Johnson confirms her aims. I believe she could possibly have inexorably damaged the Conservative Party for years to come. The next General Election will decide.

R SAUNDERS  
Walsall

## Unfair that travellers unchecked

I FIND it wholly unfair and hard to believe that the police did not check travellers' vehicles for tax or MoTs as admitted by police inspector Tracy Packham.

It was discovered through the Government website that several of the vehicles moved on from East Park, Wolverhampton had neither, I wonder how many were also uninsured? It is grossly unfair that these people running around in their Range Rovers and BMWs should be allowed to get away with it when an ordinary member of the public would, rightly so, have their vehicle taken from them.

It's about time the Government, local authorities and the police got tough with these people instead of expecting Joe Public to pick up the bill and hear reports like this. I could go on forever about the unfairness of the situation but I suspect that we will be hearing stories like this for a long time to come!

IAN HUNTER  
Willenhall

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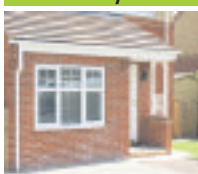
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# In bloom entry hit after flowers stolen

**THUGS** stole hanging baskets and plants from a church only weeks before judges were due to visit for the Heart in Bloom competition.

Church-goers at St John's Methodist Church in Victoria Avenue, Bloxwich, spent months giving up their time to prepare for the town's in bloom competition by planting flowers and litter picking – only to come close to pulling out at the last minute.

The four baskets, which were donated by families to remember recently-deceased loved ones, were stolen on July 14 or 15 while the judges were due to come just under two weeks later on July 26.

The baskets were hung high to protect them from thieves but the culprits kicked over a bench and stood on it to reach them.

Children and family worker for the church Vickie Heydon-Matterface, aged 41, of Pelsall, said: "Last year we were the top end of a level four and level five is considered to be outstanding so we were determined to give it that last push this year."

"We worked all-year round and kept a portfolio of what we had planted plus we helped to improve the community by litter picking and cut down trees in spots where there was anti-social behaviour. We also made rooms more available in the church for the community to use."

"When we heard about the flowers, we were devastated. The caretaker had found the bench on its side which we think they used to reach the flowers."

"I called up Heart in Bloom and explained what happened and said we may have to pull out but there



Peter Box, of Bloxwich, Vickie Heydon-Matterface and Rev Liz Dunning

was such a massive reaction on social media that it saved the day.

"We estimate £100 worth of plants was stolen but it is not about the price, it is more about the time and effort that went into it. The girls from Brownies, who planted the flowers, looked like they were about to burst into tears when they found out."

An appeal for information was

posted onto the church's Facebook group which received a massive reaction and Essington Parish Councillor James Slim donated hanging baskets meaning they were able to still take part in the competition. Church members also donated pots in the following days. They will find out the results of the competition on September 27 at an awards ceremony in Acocks Green.

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Back to the ice creams and shades



Claire Riley, Maisie Riley, aged two, and Julie Pilmore enjoy a lolly at Walsall Arboretum

GET out the ice creams out again! It's certainly a hot one with weather records being broken across Europe as the heatwave made a return.

Eight places in the centre, south and east of Portugal have broken their local temperature records with the mercury peaking at 45.2C on Thursday near Abrantes.

Last week, a spokesman for the Met Office said the weather in the UK would mostly remain dry and after a weekend of sunshine, higher temperatures would continue, but not quite as hot as over 40 degrees! And while the Midlands feels slightly cooler, in the mid to late 20s Celcius, those in the South East corner would be feeling the heat with highs of over 30 degrees.

Temperatures are being driven higher across the Iberian peninsula by a hot air mass moving northward from Africa, which is also bringing dust from the Sahara Desert, meteorologists said.

# Suede club gets new owners as £75k spent

A LANDMARK nightclub in Walsall has been snapped up after a month on the market and will be brought back to life.

Suede nightclub in Bridge Street has been taken over after a hometown businessman swooped in to snap it up. The club had been on the market for weeks with a £75,000 price tag.

However it is not known what the value of the final deal was.

Daniel Walker announced the news via Facebook and said he and business partner Daniel Bijou Matto were 'excited' for a new business venture.

He said: "After five years away from Walsall I'm happy to announce I have taken over Suede Bar & Nightclub (the old Revolution bar) in Walsall with Daniel Bijou Matto. We're excited for this new business venture and after a meeting with the current promoters we're looking forward to providing some big events for the town."

Daniel grew up in Walsall and attended Birmingham City University where he studied business manage-

By Megan Archer

ment. But he said he was delighted to be back working in the centre of his hometown.

The nightclub in Bridge Street - formerly the Revolution bar - went up for sale at the end of June with a price tag of £75,000. The 9,060sq ft club stayed up and running during the sale process, but the new owners now have big plans to see it become the new night time hotspot in Walsall.

Councillor Eileen Russell, who represents the St Matthews area said: "Young people in Walsall need something to do."

And that area can be quite neglected so it's good to have something that will spruce it up."

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## Olwen celebrates 100th milestone



Olwen Freeman, aged 100, with her card from the Queen

IT seems longevity is in the genes for a Tipton-born woman who has just turned 100. Olwen Freeman's grandfather lived until he was 102.

Born on July 26, 1918, Olwen's father was a railway signaller who was exempt from serving in the First World War. She attended her local elementary school and later went to a commercial college in Wednesbury to learn shorthand and typing.

During the Second World War she was in a restricted occupation working in a drawing office of an arms producer. She met her future husband, Victor, a bomber pilot, who flew in a Halifax and did 45 bombing raids over Germany and Italy, during the war and the couple married in 1946 in a registry office.

They had one son, John, who was born in 1947, and made their family home in Sedgley, near Dudley. She now lives at Burgess Court, Ludlow.

# Child killer is a 'man of good character'

**CHILD** killer Ricky Walker was described by a judge as a 'man of good character' as he was jailed for six years for killing his son.

Judge Justice Morris also told Walker: "You did not intend the terrible consequences of your actions." Walker, 27, stood accused of murder and child cruelty after the death of his six-month-old son Kayden.

However, he was acquitted on both charges, instead being convicted of the manslaughter of his baby.

Kayden died of catastrophic injuries at the family home in Bilston back in 2016. Addressing Walker, Justice Morris said: "You are a man of good character with no record of previous offending."

"As we have seen from the video footage, you were an otherwise loving father who had assumed much of the burden of responsibility of childcare."

"Kayden's death resulted from a momentary loss of temper and control, against a background of tiredness and stress in looking after the children."

"You did not intend to cause his death or serious harm to him. You shook him in temper and in doing so intended to cause him some harm, but you did not

By David Banner

intend the terrible consequences of your actions."

Justice Morris added: "The death of a child is always distressing and shocking. The thoughts of a life not lived stay with us all."

A month-long trial heard allegations that Kayden was subjected to cruelty which led to an earlier head injury, several weeks before his death on June 12, 2016.

The infant went into cardiac arrest at his home in Walnut Close, Bilston, and was pronounced dead in hospital about an hour after Walker dialled 999.

Defence barrister Rachel Brand QC, said: "He (Walker) was normally a gentle and passive man. This was an isolated incident, loss of normal composure by a father who 99.9 per cent of the time was loving and caring."



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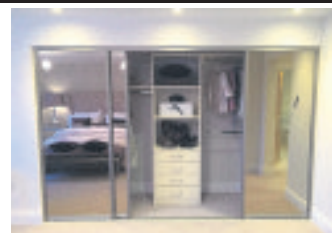
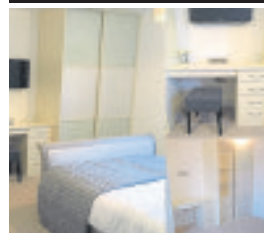
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# Ex-Pelsall Villa player's memorial bench replaced

A NEW memorial bench has been donated to Pelsall Common in tribute to a 'loveable' footballer who died at the age of 27.

Popular lad Danny Donovan, who lived in the Pelsall area, died in 2001 after a work accident.

A striker for Pelsall Villa at the time, it was expected he would have eventually ended up in the red strip of Walsall Football Club. If alive today he would be turning 45 in October.

Danny's death shocked the community with friends and family immediately travelling to Newcastle where he lay in hospital.

But he never recovered from his injuries and died shortly after, leaving behind two young children.

A memorial bench was placed on the Common in memory of Danny in 2002, but had to be taken down earlier this year due to wear and tear and mild vandalism.

## Family

Danny's family were devastated, until local businesses stepped in to help and provided a new bench free of charge.

His family, including 22-year-old son Connor Donovan and sister-in-law Jill Hubbard, said they wanted to give their thanks to everyone who had made the new bench possible.

Mrs Hubbard said: "We just want to say thank you to Haywood and Sons of Walsall and All Country Road Markings, as they helped bring this all together for free. Danny was a very well known young man in the area. He was a very popular, loveable rogue from the estate.

"He died after an accident when he fell through a roof at work and all



Sponsors Daniel Duffield and Martin Blakemore with brother Michael Hubbard and the new bench in Pelsall Common, replacing a wooden one

which will last a bit better now than the old, wooden one," she added.

The hardy metal seat now sits proudly in the same spot on Pelsall Common and the family hope it will be there for many more years to come.

Danny was in a coma at Newcastle Royal Infirmary for a week before he died in 2001, following a fall while working as a roofer at a new B&Q store development in Sunderland, Tyne and Wear.

A minute's silence was held in memory of the sportsman shortly after his death, at a match between his football club Pelsall Villa and Tividale.



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Simon Penfold gets some last-minute instruction from Finning product manager Tom Moss before being let loose

# 'Try before you buy' turns out to be a whole load of fun

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I've been let loose at the controls of a five-tonne 305 excavator. It's a neat little 42 horsepower machine with a cab that is surprisingly comfortable and full of controls. Two operate the digger arm and the bucket. Two sticks can control the digger moving backwards and forwards, but we'll skip that today. I've got my hands full as it is.

I slowly swivel the cab to face a pile of gravel, extend the arm, tilt the bucket and scoop up some gravel. It's a pathetically small amount but I feel an inordinate amount of pride. I empty it out and do it again, getting more this time. I realise I am having the most enormous fun.

And it is that 'try before you buy' approach that underlines a new sales strategy at Cannock Caterpillar equipment dealer Finning UK. It is taking the tried and tested techniques of a car dealership and applying them to the builders and small companies looking at buying a compact Cat.

### Qualify

As Finning's Jeff Scholfield says: "Let someone loose in one of these machines and it can virtually sell itself."

A few minutes' instruction from Finning product manager Tom Moss and even a complete novice like myself is off and away. A week's training would qualify most people for a CPC - Contract Plant Competence Scheme - operator card. And with an increasing shortage in trained operators, Finning believes its tapping into a growing market for its smaller machines.

Jeff Scholfield had led the team aiming to transform the way Finning retails its smaller machines, but credits company MD Kevin Parkes with driving the idea: "It started off at the Plantworx trade show last June, where we had people trying out the machines, and started thinking 'Why do we only do this once a year?'. Kevin said we should be able to do this for people when they came to Cannock."

The culmination has been the recent opening of Finning's first Cat Compact Store at its headquarters on Watling Street in Cannock. Like a car showroom it has machinery on display inside and out, as well as Caterpillar-branded T-shirts, mugs and workbooks. Out the back is an area where potential customers can try their hand with a range of equipment. "It's about the three 'A's", Jeff said. "Making our products accessible, affordable and available. Our Ready2Go range can literally be bought with on the day collection."



Simon Penfold, right, with Finning product manager Tom Moss



The test area at the rear of the new Cat Compact Store



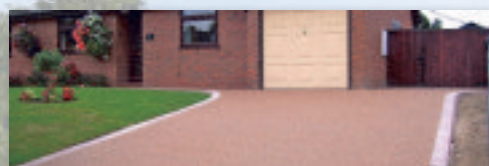
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## 2 Sisters sells its red meat division

FOOD group 2 Sisters, which has chicken processing factories in the West Midlands, has sold its red meat division.

Kepak Group is buying the business and assets of 2 Sisters Red Meat, including four UK production facilities and a cold storage facility in Truro.

The production sites are the beef and lamb processing factories in Merthyr Tydfil, Wales, and McIntosh Donald in Portlethen, Scotland, a retail packing factory at Victoria, Cornwall, and a beef processing site in Bodmin, Cornwall.

About 1,700 people are employed by 2 Sisters Red Meat. The sites, which operate under the brands McIntosh Donald and St Merryn, were bought by 2 Sisters from Vion in 2013 in a £30 million deal. The red meat business has since made losses in three of four financial years.

Ranjit Singh Boparan, president of 2 Sisters' parent Boparan Holdings, said: "We have had approaches over the past four years for our red meat operations, and we have been talking to several interested parties during this period."

"But as we always make clear, any sale has to be at the right time with the right buyer."

# Rewarding efforts of unsung sports heroes



**UNSUNG heroes giving up their time to promote and organise sport and exercise across the Black Country can be honoured for their efforts.**

Nominations are now open for the 2018 Black Country Sport & Physical Activity Awards.

The categories are: Community coach; community club; community project; power of sport; aspiring talent and unsung hero.

Previous winners have included Olympic gymnast Kristian Thomas, wheelchair tennis champ Jordanne Whaley and fundraisers Suzy Evans and son Owen Richards as well as paralympian swimmer Ellie Simmonds and marathon runner 'Blind' Dave Heeley.

But the awards also seek to reward the many unheralded heroes in our communities quietly devoting their spare time to volunteer, support and inspire people of every age to take up sport and exercise.

### Inspire

The Black Country Sport & Physical Activity Awards are run each year by Active Black Country, the sporting arm of the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership.

An Active Black Country spokeswoman said: "There are thousands of people across the Black Country doing fantastic things to inspire people to lead healthier, fun and active lives, from netball to boccia, football to zumba."

"Active Black Country want to recognise those individuals and organisations."



Some of the award winners from last year's Black Country Sports & Physical Activity Awards

Winners will be announced at a ceremony on Thursday October 4 at Himley Hall, Dudley.

A total of 35 finalists were in the running for the awards last year when former women's England Rugby player Maggie Alphonsi MBE, who lifted the World Cup with England in 2014, was the guest speaker. Winners included the Dudley Dis-

ability Swimming Project; Tividale Football Academy; the Federation of Abbey Infant & Abbey Junior Schools in Sandwell; Benson Community Project in Smethwick and Community Rangers FC.

The Unsung Hero award went to John Totney and Martin Floyd, who in two years tallied up 1,400 hours, or 58 days, of voluntary work supporting disabled people at

Portway Lifestyle Centre in Oldbury. Nomination forms can be downloaded from: <https://www.activeblackcountry.co.uk/events/black-country-sport--physical-activity-awards-2018/>

All completed nomination forms can be sent to [marketing@blackcountryconsortium.co.uk](mailto:marketing@blackcountryconsortium.co.uk) by the closing date of 5pm on Friday August 31.

## Increase in attacks by prison inmates

ATTACKS by prisoners on staff and other inmates have rocketed to record levels in West Midlands jails over the last five years, new figures reveal.

According to Ministry of Justice (MoJ) figures, South Staffordshire's three prisons saw 313 assaults on staff last year - four times as many as in 2012.

And the data shows that prisoner-on-prisoner assaults in HMP Oakwood, HMP Featherstone and Brinsford YOI jumped to almost 1,000 last year, in what has been described as an 'extremely concerning' rise in violence.

Despite the sharp spike in assaults, all three institutions were said to be meeting the majority of their targets in the latest MoJ prison performance tables.

However, HMP Birmingham was given the bottom rung rating in the tables, with MoJ inspectors branding the prison's performance as being of 'serious concern'.

It is the second year running that the prison has been awarded the lowest possible grade, with a staggering 434 assaults on staff recorded in 2017, compared to 75 in 2012.

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## Rick's Piano Odyssey for his new tour

Following the hugely successful Piano Portraits tour last year, Rick Wakeman has decided to do it again.

The virtuoso has a new release and tour, this time entitled Piano Odyssey, which will stop off at Birmingham's Town Hall on December 11 and will pack a festive twist. The record precedes that, arriving on September 14.

The tour will feature even more classic tracks given Rick's unique piano treatment, and will travel to towns and cities not previously visited in 2017.

Former Yes keyboardist Rick said: "In the footsteps of Piano Portraits, the new album Piano Odyssey features a collection of music, old and new, that includes some particular favourites of mine. I'm looking forward to performing tracks from it on my own odyssey around the UK."

His Piano Portraits album in January 2017 made chart history, becoming the first solo piano album to enter the UK's Top 10, eventually reaching number six.

Inspired by the unprecedented public reaction to his cover of Bowie's Life On Mars – he also played on Bowie's original – the album features instrumental versions of hits that Rick was originally involved with, such as Space Oddity and Morning Has Broken, as well as others he chose for their melodies, including Stairway To Heaven.

The December dates – including Birmingham – are a Christmas tour in which the set list will be given a seasonal twist.

James Hurn as 'the lad himself', Tony Hancock



## Lost Hancock revived

LONG-LOST Tony Hancock radio scripts from the 1950s are to be revived in the Black Country, the home region of scriptwriter Larry Stephens.

The Lost Hancocks: Vacant Lot will be performed at Stourbridge Town Hall's Wollaston Studio on September 19.

Birmingham-born Tony Hancock was a giant of post-war British comedy, best known for his radio and television series Hancock's Half-Hour. The story behind the scripts goes back 66 years to 1952, when comedy writer

Larry Stephens – who lived in Halesowen – convinced the BBC to let him create a comedy series for his friend Hancock.

Entitled Vacant Lot, the series focused on life in the faded fictional seaside town of Churdley Bay where the blundering, pompous Hancock aspires to better his lot.

Despite featuring a supporting cast of colourful characters – with Peter Sellers and Spike Milligan among those mooted for roles – the series was never recorded. The scripts have lain buried in the BBC archives for more than six decades, despite their links to Hancock and Goon Show writer, jazz pianist and former Commando Stephens. The

acclaimed writer was to die at the age of 35 in 1959 from a cerebral haemorrhage.

Alex Jackson, booker for Dudley Borough Halls, said: "We are thrilled to be working with the brilliant Birmingham Comedy Festival on this very exciting show, featuring a really wonderful cast." That cast includes impressionist James Hurn from TV's Dead Ringers and Janice Connolly, AKA comedian Mrs Barbara Nice.

Dave Freak, show director, said: "Here we get a rare glimpse of a pre-superstar Hancock, in what would have been his first major leading role." Tickets are available from [www.boroughhalls.co.uk](http://www.boroughhalls.co.uk) or by calling 01384 812812.

## Museum is inspiring performers

A NEW set of performances 'Back in 10', produced by Black Country Touring, will be taking place during Black Country Living Museum's Summer Evenings this month using the Tipton Road attraction's shops as a backdrop.

On Fridays five artists will present 10 to 15 minute performances at The Trap Works, J. Wiltshire Pawnbrokers and Gripton's Radio, each week working at a different location within the site.

Performances, including poetry, music and dance, will be created by theatre artist Rochi Rampal, Black Country performance poet Dave Reeves, choreographer Sonia Sabri, and sound and music designer Pavan Chand. Set and costume design will be by Abigail King and overall the performances will be led by director Steve Johnstone of Black Country Touring.

The artists are supported graduates from the University of Wolverhampton, who conducted research to find out what each space provoked in visitors today.

Visitors can expect anything from mechanised soundscapes, the appearance of a genie, a promenade-wander blurring time between the present and the past, and a story from two contrasting worlds.

Back in 10 is the first public-facing project of a four-year partnership between Black Country Touring & Black Country Living Museum. Back in 10 is part of BCLM's Summer Evenings programme which offers £5 entry after 4pm.

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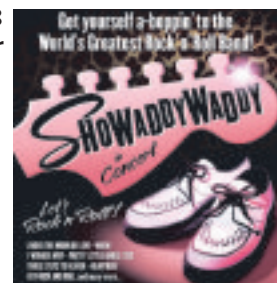
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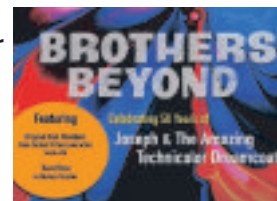
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# AT YOUR LEISURE

Bewdley's Becky Hill



## The Voice star Becky returns with new single and tour

BEWDLEY singer Becky Hill is having a busy time after releasing her new single Sunrise In The East and the accompanying video, as well as announcing her headline tour for the autumn.

The tour, which takes place throughout October, includes a homecoming date at Birmingham's O2 Institute 2 on October 12.

The 2012 semi-finalist on TV talent show The Voice, where she was

mentored by Jessie J, has revealed her latest single – her first for Polydor Records – was accompanied by a video shot in Vietnam and directed by Michael Holyk, whose previous credits include Jake Bugg, Sam Smith and Sundara Karma.

"Vietnam is one of my favourite places in the world," the 24-year-old former Wyre Forest barmaid said. "To do a video there was a dream come true. With 21-hour days and intense shooting it was also the hardest shoot I've ever had to do."

"The team were amazing, everyone

knew the job they had to do no matter how little sleep we got.

"It's my pleasure to present my brand new video."

Hill wrote the track with Maverick Sabre and Lost Boy. It was produced by ADP and captures the exhilarating flourish of a new relationship and discovering someone on a deeper level.

Sunrise In The East is also the first taste of her material from her forthcoming as-yet-untitled debut album. Tickets for O2 Institute 2 show are priced at £15.

## Taj Express delivery from Bollywood to Birmingham

A BOLLYWOOD extravaganza comes to Birmingham following a hit season in the West End and tour of America.

The musical Taj Express will begin a five-night run at the Birmingham Hippodrome on September 11.

The show follows young composer Shankar as he struggles with his music until he begins to follow in the footsteps of his idol, A.R. Rahman and discovers his path to success.

The show blends explosive dance with the hits from India's top composers with a soundtrack featuring the songs of Oscar-winner A.R. Rahman, composer for Danny Boyle's Slumdog Millionaire.

This production, which looks behind the scenes at the world's most prolific film industry, follows the success of The Merchants of

Bollywood and Wah! Wah! Girls. Behind the dance scenes is one of Bollywood's top choreographers Vaibhavi Merchant and her sister Shruti Merchant.

The pair were part of the creative team behind The Merchants of Bollywood, based on the life of their grandfather Shri Hiralalji.

Vaibhavi performed in the film Snehapoorvam Anna. As a choreographer she worked on a variety of acclaimed films, winning a National Film Award for choreographing Dhole baaje in the movie Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam. Shruti toured around the world for more than five years with The Merchants of Bollywood and has also assisted in the choreography direction for Bollywood blockbusters.



A scene from Taj Express

## Rock, blues and reggae with Farmer Phil

Eclectic rural gathering Farmer Phil's Music Festival is being held in Shropshire this weekend at Ratlinghope, near Shrewsbury.

The county's answer to Glastonbury is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year with a diverse range of acts ranging from punk and reggae to folk, blues and cabaret.

Farmer Phil Harding has long held a passion for live music and brings top international musicians to his festival while also encouraging up-and-coming local talent to perform. The 2018 line-up includes reggae hit-makers Aswad, Dr & The Medics, Jilted Generation, Fight The Bear, Shoot The Moon, Quill, Bob Marley tribute Legend, Baba Jack, and the Herbert Spliffington Allstars.

A spokesperson for the event said: "We are a family-friendly music festival complete with on-site camping, two stages featuring over 50 outstanding live acts. Ska, folk, punk, rock 'n' roll, classic rock or dance music, you'll find it all here." Visit [www.farmerphilfestival.com](http://www.farmerphilfestival.com) for more information.

## The Moomins are coming to the MAC

Youngsters are being invited to take a trip to Moominvalley when Lost and Found theatre company present children's show Mischief And Mystery In Moomin Valley.

Featuring the timeless characters created by Scandinavian illustrator Tove Jansson, the story telling experience with puppetry on an ingenious pop-up book set, features original music and is designed to delight four to seven-year-olds.

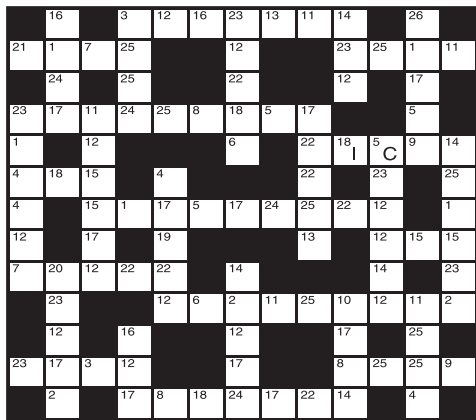
The show lasts around 45 minutes and will be performed at the MAC Birmingham, in Cannon Hall Park, tomorrow (Friday) at 11am, 2pm and 4pm, then again on Saturday at the same times. The 11am performance on Saturday will feature a British Sign Language interpreter. To book see the [macbirmingham.co.uk](http://macbirmingham.co.uk) website or call 0121 446 3232.

Other children's shows coming to the MAC include Chamberhouse Theatre's production of Alice in Wonderland on Thursday, August 16, at 6.30pm. It is described as suitable for all the family.



## No.492

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
T	Y	E	P	D	X	S	G	K	C	O	H	V
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
L	B	Z	N	F	J	U	Q	M	A	I	W	R

Choose either quick or cryptic clues – both fit the same grid.

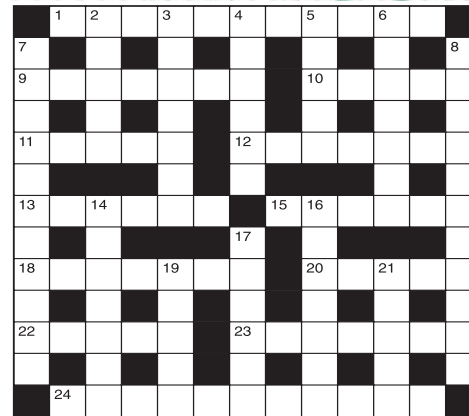
### Cryptic Clues:

### Across

1. Old boy with the only perfume going out of date (11)
9. 'A car' I am to translate into this language (7)
10. Say it this take was the fault of Mabel (5)
11. A supporter of painting (5)
12. Take the lead, but give up beforehand, apparently (7)
13. Not in good voice ashore (6)
15. Rot got into cave (6)
18. Student is one who gets a pound in wages (7)
20. Kingdom holds 1000 who are genuine (5)
22. Hoary poet? (5)
23. Not huge, but we can make it stronger (7)
24. Chief let this take to come top (4,3,4)

**Down**

2. They are spilt indiscreetly (5)
3. Mysterious pronouncements which could be so clear (7)
4. Get away from two points on the headland (6)
5. 100 with the ability to send a telegram (5)
6. Eastern, yet could not be closer (7)
7. How the hitch-hiker can make sure to get up to (4,3,4)
8. Growth in the photographic industry? (11)
14. Do a meal stylishly (1,2,4)
16. Seen in mirror quails felt about whale (7)
17. A lame supporter (6)
19. Famous? Edward? You must be joking! (5)
21. The result of burning trees? (5)



**Quick Clues:**

### Across

1. Absolutely sure (4,7)
9. Self-centred person (7)
10. Prize (5)
11. Obvious (5)
12. Title (7)
13. Firm (6)
15. Turn back (6)
18. Insignia (7)
20. Tribal emblem (5)
22. Trail (5)
23. Include (7)
24. Irish dramatist (7,4)

**Down**

2. Wear away (5)
3. Wandered (7)
4. Tempt (6)
5. A flower (5)
6. Bill (7)
7. Show (11)
8. Recall (5,2,4)
14. Inscribe (7)
16. Stretches (7)
17. Cavalryman (6)
19. Compare (5)
21. Headdress (5)

Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

	5		6		2		4	
	8	4				3	2	
2						6		9
			3	1	5			
4			7					1
			8	4	6			
9						8		3
	2	6		3		9	7	
	7		9		8		6	

Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S  
SOLUTIONS >

8	7	6	3	5	4	2	9	1
3	1	2	9	6	8	4	7	5
9	5	4	7	2	1	6	3	8
5	3	8	1	9	6	7	2	4
2	4	9	8	3	7	1	5	6
1	6	7	5	4	2	3	8	9
7	2	1	6	8	5	9	4	3
6	8	3	4	7	9	5	1	2
4	9	5	2	1	3	8	6	7

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:  
 CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Spotless; 5 Talc; 9 Form;  
 10 Inroads; 11 Voile; 12 Wrought; 13 Sedge-  
 warblers; 18 Torments; 19 Away; 20 Evil-eye;  
 21 Choir; 22 Sign; 23 Asperity.  
 Down: 2 Promote; 3 Time-lag; 4 Straw mattress;  
 6 Attinge; 7 Creates; 8 Entombs; 13 Setters;  
 14 Darling; 15 Eleven; 16 Leather; 17 Realist.  
 QUICK - Across: 1 Sanctify; 5 Pump; 9 Plan;  
 10 Practice; 11 Debar; 12 Edifice; 13 State of  
 14 War; 15 Amicable; 16 Deed; 17 Diocese;  
 21 Vague; 22 Leer; 23 Assented.  
 Down: 2 Aliment; 3 Contact; 4 Forgetfulness;  
 6 Orifice; 7 Present; 8 Actor; 13 Scandal;  
 14 Adipose; 15 Erase; 16 Refrain; 17 Statute.

1. On which Hebridean island did Prince Charles overshoot the runway on landing in 1994?
2. Where is the St. Leger run?
3. Of which gland is a goitre an enlargement?
4. How many Inns of Court are there in England?
5. In biology, what is a group of families called?

6. What is the Peak District's highest point?
7. Of what animal are mississippiensis and sinensis the two varieties?
8. Which novelist created Svengali?
9. Which king converted Leeds Castle to a palace?
10. On silverware, what do the letters EPNS stand for?

**Last week's solutions:**

**Quiz:** 1 Isotherm; 2 Philistines; 3 Campania;  
4 Macrame; 5 Billie Holiday; 6 Oleg Salenko;  
7 Thursday; 8 South Africa; 9 Switzerland;  
10 Frances Hodgson Burnett.

**Niner:** INDECORUM

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

96384 gives a raid,  
65716 gives a burglary,  
93278 gives an alarm.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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CHOICE



Frieda Hughes

Sylvia Plath: Life Inside the Bell Jar (BBC2, 9pm)

Documentary exploring Sylvia Plath's semi-autobiographical novel, exploring the wider landscape of 1950s gender politics and Plath's own struggles to survive society's constraints. Featuring an interview with the author's daughter Frieda Hughes, who discusses her mother in depth on camera for the first time, as well as impressionistic reconstructions of excerpts from the book featuring readings by Maggie Gyllenhaal, unpublished letters, photographs and archive materials, and contributions from people who knew the writer.

BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Food & Drink. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** European Championships 2018. Further live coverage of day 10 of the inaugural staging of the multi-sports event from Glasgow and Berlin, featuring diving, golf, and gymnastics. **4.30** Final Score. **5.10** BBC News. **5.20** Regional Programme. **5.30** European Championships 2018. Gabby Logan presents concluding live coverage of day 10 of the inaugural staging of the multi-sports event from Glasgow and Berlin, featuring diving, triathlon, and athletics. The mixed 10m synchronised and women's 3m springboard finals conclude at Royal Commonwealth Pool, as does the elite team relay triathlon event at Strathclyde Country Park, but the main focus of attention this evening will be in the athletics at Olympiastadion Berlin. The penultimate day of competition consists only of finals, and British interest may lie in the women's long jump and 200m, where Lorraine Ugen and Dina Asher-Smith are expected to be among those competing for medals. Other events scheduled to take place are the women's 400m, men's 800m and 5,000m, as well as the women's and men's 4x400m relay races. **9.10** **Casualty**. New series. Iain visits a patient at home, who has frequently tried to harm herself in the past, but decide she does not need help at the moment despite the concerns of her boyfriend. However, while driving back to the hospital, he witnesses her attempting suicide by jumping off a bridge – which in turn, causes a major crash putting several lives in danger – including Sam's. **10.00** BBC News; Weather; National Lottery Update. **10.20** **Match of the Day**. Gary Lineker presents highlights from the opening matches of the Premier League season, including Wolverhampton Wanderers v Everton and Huddersfield Town v Chelsea. Wolves were one of the three promoted sides in action, hoping that their expensively assembled squad can compete in the top flight. **11.45** **Film: Shanghai Knights**. (2003) Martial arts comedy sequel, with Jackie Chan, Owen Wilson, Aidan Gillen and Fann Wong. **1.35** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.40** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.35** Marrying Mum and Dad. (R) **7.05** Officially Amazing Goes Bunkers. **7.35** The Dengineers. (R) **8.05** Deadly Dinosaurs with Steve Backshall. (R) **8.35** David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities. (R) **9.00** European Championships 2018. **1.15** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) **2.15** Garden Rescue. (R) **3.00** Wanted Down Under. (R) **3.45** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.30** European Championships 2018. Continued live coverage of day 10 from Glasgow and Berlin. **5.30** Flog It! (R) **5.50** Inventing the Impossible: The Big Life Fix. (R) **6.50** **Proms Extra**. Katie Derham is joined by guests violinist Joshua Bell, cellist and singer Ayanna Witter-Johnson, and soprano Nadine Benjamin ahead of their Proms performances. **7.30** **Dad's Army**. Mainwaring's men pose as traitors to see how the residents of Walmington-on-Sea would deal with genuine Nazi infiltrators in their midst. (R) **8.00** **Blitz: The Bombs That Changed Britain**. The documentary focuses on wartime Hull and the consequences of a specific bomb that fell on the city's 6th Avenue, flattening two houses and changing the lives of two families for ever. The Taylors lost baby Peter and 14-year-old Vera was very badly burned. Next door, Mrs Owens had put three of her children under the stairs for safety, but they didn't survive. Contributors include Mrs Owens' daughter Janet, who was born after the war and has many questions about what happened to her siblings. Here she meets the surviving Taylor sisters to talk about the event. (R) **9.00** **Sylvia Plath: Life Inside the Bell Jar**. Documentary exploring the semi-autobiographical novel, exploring the wider landscape of 1950s gender politics. Featuring an interview with the author's daughter Frieda Hughes. **10.00** **QI XL**. Extended episode in which Sandi Toksvig invites Lucy Beaumont, Jason Manfred, Rhod Gilbert and Alan Davies to answer questions on subjects associated with the North and the Norse. (R) **10.45** **Film: Devdas**. (2002) Gorgeous, epic Oscar-nominated Bollywood musical, starring Shah Rukh Khan. **1.40** Picnic at Hanging Rock. (R) **2.30** **Film: Sylvia**. (2003) **4.20** This is BBC Two.

ITV

**6.00** CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Make It Pop. (R) **6.35** Dino Dana. (R) **6.50** Mission Employable. (R) **6.55** The Oddbods Show. (R) **7.05** NinjaGo: Possession. (R) **7.30** The Haunted Hathaways. (R) **7.55** Drop Dead Weird. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball On Saturday. **9.25** James Martin's Saturday Morning. (R) **11.20** James Martin's American Adventure. (R) **11.50** Eat. Shop. Save. (R) **12.20** Love Your Garden. (R) **1.20** £10K Holiday Home. (R) **1.50** ITV News; Weather. **2.00** Tenable. (R) **3.00** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. (R) **4.00** The Chase. (R) **5.00** WWS Wrestling. **6.00** ITV News; Weather. **6.15** **Regional Programme**; Weather. **6.30** **Japandemonium**. A review of the best Japanese TV, featuring a man and a dog competing in an eating contest, the strange world of baby racing, and more from Hole in the Road. Narrated by Melvin Odoom. **7.00** **Big Star's Little Star**. Stephen Mulhern hosts the entertainment show in which the children of Una Foden, Kate Silverton and Kriss Akabusi spill the beans about their famous parents, talking about their home lives, making heart-warming revelations or telling downright embarrassing stories. The contestants are all hoping to win as much money as possible for their chosen charities. **8.00** **Film: The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies**. (2014) Dwarf King Thorin reclaims control of his homeland, but his descent into madness places him on the brink of war with his human and elven allies. As Thorin's Hobbit friend Bilbo tries to save the tormented ruler from himself, a vast horde of orcs gathers to destroy them all. Conclusion of the fantasy adventure trilogy, starring Martin Freeman, Richard Armitage, Ian McKellen, Luke Evans and Orlando Bloom. **10.35** ITV News; Weather. **10.55** **Film: Wanted**. (2008) A man joins a secret society of superpowered assassins that kills people destined to commit acts of evil. Action adventure, starring James McAvoy, Angelina Jolie and Morgan Freeman. **12.40** Jackpot247. Interactive gaming. **3.00** Eternal Glory. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. Text-based information service.

CHANNEL 4

**6.10** Triathlon: London. **7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.20** Frasier. (R) **8.50** Frasier. (R) **9.25** Frasier. (R) **9.55** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.20** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.50** The Simpsons. (R) **11.20** The Simpsons. (R) **11.50** Come Dine with Me. (R) **12.55** Four in a Bed. (R) **1.25** Four in a Bed. (R) **1.55** Four in a Bed. (R) **2.30** Four in a Bed. (R) **3.00** Four in a Bed. (R) **3.35** A Place in the Sun; Winter Sun. (R) **4.35** The People's Vet. **5.35** Escape to the Chateau: DIY. (R) **6.30** **Channel 4 News**. **7.00** **A Year in the New Forest**. A look at life in the New Forest in the spring, a challenging time of year for both people and animals. The semi-wild cattle and ponies that live in the forest face giving birth during changeable weather conditions, while the possibility of a late frost puts a goshawk's eggs at risk. **8.00** **My Family and the Galapagos**. Monty Hall's last few weeks on the Galapagos are spent learning more about sharks. He begins by taking his daughter Isla snorkelling with the creatures, then paying a visit to her school to give a talk on the ocean's most dangerous predators. Monty later joins a research expedition travelling 150 miles from human habitation to tag and photograph whale sharks, hoping to acquire valuable information on how to best protect both the sharks of the Galapagos and the oceans in general. The family also learns more about marine iguanas. Last in the series. **9.00** **Film: Eye in the Sky**. (2015) Premiere. Colonel Katherine Powell's mission to wipe out a terrorist cell in Kenya is complicated when a girl enters the blast radius of the intended drone strike. Powell has to decide between sacrificing the girl's life or letting the terrorists flee to carry out more atrocities. Thriller, starring Helen Mirren, Alan Rickman and Aaron Paul. **11.00** **Film: The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 2**. (2012) Conclusion of the romantic fantasy series, with Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson. **1.05** The Last Leg. (R) **2.00** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.10** Vet on the Hill. (R) **5.05** Lost and Found. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake! **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.35** Chuckle Time with the Chuckle Brothers. (R) **11.25** Police Interceptors: Deadly Pursuits. (R) **12.25** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.20** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.20** Police Interceptors. (R) **3.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **4.15** **Film: Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl**. (2003) Swashbuckling fantasy adventure, starring Johnny Depp and Orlando Bloom. **5.15** 5 News Update. **5.20** **Film: Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl**. (2003) Concluded. **7.00** **Cricknet** on 5. England v India. Mark Nicholas presents action from the third day of the Second Test in the five-match series, taking place at Lord's. With commentary by Michael Vaughan, Alison Mitchell, Sourav Ganguly, Ebony Rainford-Brent and Charles Dagnall. **7.55** 5 News Weekend. **8.00** **Blind Date**. Paul O'Grady hosts a revival of the dating show in which a personal trainer and a Blackpool resident must choose between three unseen suitors based on their answers to a series of questions. Plus, last week's couples return from pottery classes and a trip to Morocco to reveal how things went. **9.00** **Gino's Win Your Wish List**. Gino D'Acampo hosts the game show in which a family of five contestants choose their dream prizes, then in pairs answer questions to try to bank the items on their wish list. The Harvey family from Co Antrim hope to win a holiday in Thailand, tickets to London fashion week, a new sofa and a chance to meet Elton John backstage. **10.00** **When Live TV Goes Horribly Wrong**. Memorial on-air hitches, including presenter Sarah Cawood recalling the time The National Lottery Jetset studio was invaded by Fathers for Justice protestors. (R) **12.55** SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. **3.10** Britain by Bike with Larry & George Lamb. The father-and-son duo explore Northumberland. (R) **4.00** Autopsy: Philip Seymour Hoffman. Investigating the death of the American actor. (R) **4.45** House Doctor. Ann Maurice visits Maidstone. (R) **5.10** Great Artists. Greek artist El Greco. (R) **5.35** Wildlife SOS. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Wild Ireland: The Edge of the World  
**8.00** Wonders of the Moonson  
**9.00** Cardinal: Blackly Season  
**10.25** Top of the Pops: 1986  
**10.55** You've Got a Friend: The Carole King Story  
**12.55** Easy Listening Hits at the BBC  
**1.55** Wild Ireland: The Edge of the World  
**2.55** Wonders of the Moonson  
**3.55** Close  
**ITV2**  
**11.35** Catchphrase  
**12.20** You've Been Framed! Gold  
**1.25** **Film: Step Up Revolution** (2012)  
**2.25** **Film: Step Up Revolution** (2012)  
**3.15** **Film: Johnny English Reborn** (2011)  
**4.15** **Film: Johnny English Reborn** (2011)  
**5.20** **Film: Star Wars: Episode III – Revenge of the Sith** (2005)  
**6.25** **Film: Star Wars: Episode III – Revenge of the Sith** (2005)  
**9.05** **Film: Creed** (2015)  
**10.45** Keith Lemon: Coming in America  
**11.30** Family Guy  
**12.55** American Dad!  
**1.50** The Cleveland Show  
**2.55** CelebAbility  
**2.55** Teleshopping  
**5.15** **ITV2** Nightscreen  
**ITV3**  
**2.45** **Film: That Riviera Touch** (1966)  
**4.50** Agatha Christie's Poirot  
**7.00** Lewis  
**9.00** Endeavour  
**11.00** Vera  
**1.00** On the Buses  
**2.00** **ITV3** Nightscreen  
**2.30** Teleshopping  
**ITV4**  
**12.45** **ITV Racing: Live from Ascot**. Coverage of today's race meetings at Ascot. Haydock Park and Newmarket.  
**4.35** **Film: Escape to Victory** (1981)  
**5.35** **FYI Daily**  
**5.40** **Film: Escape to Victory** (1981)  
**7.00** World Series of Darts: Melbourne  
**11.00** Better Late Than Never  
**11.55** River Monsters  
**12.55** Minder  
**2.00** The Motorbike Show  
**2.50** **ITV4** Nightscreen  
**3.00** Teleshopping  
**E4**  
**11.30** Don't Tell the Bride  
**12.30** **Film: Dr Dolittle** (1998)  
**2.10** **Rude (ish)** Tube Shorts  
**2.30** **The Goldbears**  
**5.00** **The Big Bang Theory**  
**9.00** **Film: The Inbetweeners Movie** (2011)  
**11.00** **The Inbetweeners**  
**12.10** **Gogglebox**  
**2.15** **Rude Tube: Rude Tunes**  
**3.05** **The Inbetweeners**  
**4.05** **Rude Tube**  
**4.30** **Rude (ish)** Tube  
**Film4**  
**11.00** **Courage Mountain** (1990)  
**1.00** **Garfield: A Tale of Two Kitties** (2006)  
**2.35** **Never Been Kissed** (1999)  
**4.40** **The Choice** (2016)  
**6.55** **The Princess Bride** (1987)  
**9.00** **Pitch Perfect 2** (2015)  
**11.15** **Scouts Guide to the Zombie Apocalypse** (2015)  
**1.05** **Danger: Diabolik** (1968)  
**3.15** Close

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## CHOICE



Fiona Bruce

### Fake or Fortune? (BBC1, 9pm)

New series. Fiona Bruce and Philip Mould examine a still life that may have been painted by prolific artist William Nicholson, but which has been rejected by leading experts on his work. They discover a useful source of evidence in Nicholson's own paint box, but as they delve into the painting's history, they discover it may have been connected to one of the 20th century's greatest art crimes.

## BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **9.00** Match of the Day. (R) **10.25** Sunday Morning Live. **11.25** Bargain Hunt. (R) **12.25** Songs of Praise. **1.00** BBC News. Weather. **1.15** European Championships 2018. Further live coverage of day 11 from Glasgow and Berlin, featuring diving, open water swimming, gymnastics, road cycling, and golf. **5.00** BBC News. **5.20** Regional Programme. **5.30** Countryfile. Matt Baker, Ellie Harrison and Steve Brown present the show from Nottinghamshire, examining efforts to conserve the region's bramble apple trees and rare species of bats. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

**6.30** **European Championships 2018.** Gabby Logan presents concluding coverage of day 11 from Berlin, where the inaugural staging of the multi-sports event draws to a close with the final night of athletics. British middle-distance runners Laura Muir and Eilish McColgan are expected to compete in the respective finals of the women's 1500m and 3,000m steeplechase, while the men's triple jump event also takes place, before the finals of the women's and men's 4x100m relay races provide an exciting climax to the competition.

**9.00** **Fake or Fortune?** New series. Fiona Bruce and Philip Mould examine a still life that may have been painted by William Nicholson, but could be from one of the 20th century's greatest art crimes.

**10.00** BBC News.

**10.20** Regional Programme.

**10.30** **Match of the Day 2.** Mark Chapman reviews the day's three Premier League matches, featuring Arsenal v Manchester City at the Emirates Stadium, Liverpool v West Ham United at Anfield and Southampton v Burnley at the St Mary's Stadium. A new post-Arsene Wenger era began for Arsenal with the toughest of tests against last season's champions, while the Hammers were also looking for a surprise victory under new manager Manuel Pellegrini.

**11.35** **The Truth About Getting Fit.** Michael Mosley and a team of scientists investigate some of the easiest and most effective ways to get the biggest benefits of exercise. (R)

**12.35** Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.40** BBC News.

## BBC2

**6.05** Gardeners' World. (R) **7.05** Countryfile. (R) **8.00** European Championships 2018. **1.15** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) **2.15** The Mating Game - Natural World Special. (R) **3.15** Money for Nothing. (R) **4.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **5.00** European Championships 2018. Continued live coverage of day 11 from Glasgow and Berlin.

**6.30** **Mortimer & Whitehouse: Gone Fishing.** Paul and Bob fish the river Wensum in Norfolk for Roach, and decide to challenge each other to a fishing competition where the winner gets a very special culinary treat. (R)

**7.00** **Inside the Factory.** Gregg Wallace explores the North Yorkshire factory that produces 625,000 sausages a day, and Cherry Healey is at the University of Chester, getting the scientific lowdown on the best bangers. Plus, Ruth Goodman investigates how a German bratwurst became so popular in America. (R)

**8.00** **Dragons' Den.** New series. Entrepreneurs Deborah Meaden, Peter Jones, Touker Suleyman, Tej Lalvani and Jenny Campbell assess more unusual business ideas, including a shocking display from the owner of a live anatomy dissection business and a new model of tuk-tuk that turns out to have a fatal flaw. The final presentation is for a singer-for-hire scheme, which prompts the panel to show off their own musical talents.

**9.00** **Travels in Trumpland with Ed Balls.** Ed Balls discovers who benefits financially from Trump's presidency, paying a visit to his private members' club, where a party is being held to mark the first anniversary of the election victory. He also meets a controversial pastor who believes former can lead to wealth and a musician attempting to fuse country music and rap. Finally, Ed attends a Tea Party convention, to share with those in attendance what he has learned. Last in the series.

**10.00** **Lost Boys?: What's Going Wrong for Asian Men.** Reporter Mehreen Balg reports on the challenges facing Asian men growing up in modern Britain.

**11.00** **Film: Kings of Curry.** (2013) **12.20** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **1.15** Holby City. (R) **2.15** This Is BBC Two.

## ITV

**6.00** CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Make It Pop. (R) **6.35** Dino Dana. (R) **6.50** Mission Employable. (R) **6.55** The Oddbods Show. (R) **7.05** NinjaGo: Possession. (R) **7.30** The Haunted Hathaways. (R) **7.55** Drop Dead Weird. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball on Sunday. **9.25** Japandemonium. (R) **9.50** Ninja Warrior UK. (R) **10.50** WOS Wrestling. (R) **11.50** Big Star's Little Star. (R) **12.50** ITV News; Weather. **1.00** Paul O'Grady's Little Heroes. (R) **1.30** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. (R) **2.30** The Chase. (R) **3.30** **Film: The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring.** (2001) Fantasy adventure, starring Elijah Wood.

**6.40** **ITV News.** Weather.

**6.50** **Regional Programme.** Weather.

**7.00** **Midsomer Murders.** At the Luxton Deeping Crime Festival, the unveiling of a newly discovered novel by deceased Midsomer crime writer George Summersbee is jeopardised when the manuscript is stolen and local artist Suzie Colebrooke is electrocuted by a booby-trapped roulette wheel. Can new father Barnaby untangle a web of jealousy and obsession to find the killer? With Fiona Dolman, Tamzin Maleson, Liberty Mills, Una Stubbs and Georgia Taylor. (R)

**9.00** **Unforgotten.** James, Tim and Chris are exposed as having lied about their whereabouts on the night Hayley died. Pete reveals that he saw Eliot climbing into the holiday home through a window on New Year's Day, while leaves James struggling with the possibility that his son may have killed Hayley. Fran cracks a code in the dead girl's diary, suggesting that she met a local drug dealer on the night she disappeared.

**10.05** **ITV News.** Weather.

**10.20** **Carry On Forever.** June Whitfield and Sally Geeson recall how Carry On Abroad was filmed much closer to home than the cast had hoped and Patrick Mower reflects on Carry On England. Last in the series. (R)

**11.20** **Tonight at the Palladium.** Variety show from the West End theatre, featuring some of the UK's best-loved comedians and entertainers. (R)

**12.10** Jackpot247. Interactive gaming. **3.00** Motorsport UK. (R) **3.50** British Superbike Championship Highlights.

**4.40** **ITV Nightscreen.** **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

## CHANNEL 4

**6.00** Kirstie's Vintage Gems. (R) **6.05** Mobil 1: The Grid. **6.30** Motor Sport: British GT. **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **8.55** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **1.00** The Simpsons. (R) **1.30** Peng Life. (R) **2.00** **Film: Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules.** (2011) Children's comedy sequel, starring Zachary Gordon. **4.00** Location. Location. Location. (R) **5.00** A Place in the Sun. **5.30** Homes by the Sea. (R)

**6.30** **Channel 4 News.**

**7.00** **Flying Across Britain with Arthur Williams.** Arthur explores the South East by plane, discovering the dangers of flying through London's crowded airspace and visiting the birthplace of British aviation on the North Kent coast. He also follows the course of the M25 to Cardington Sheds, home of the world's biggest aircraft and takes a spitfire for a spin in Biggin Hill.

**8.00** **Hidden Britain by Drone.** Tony Robinson presents aerial footage of more inaccessible parts of the UK, sending drones to explore a chain of sea forts that were once a lair for pirates, a top-secret underground Cold War bunker, the inner workings of a sewage plant and a vast luxury car emporium.

**9.00** **The Handmaid's Tale.** Serena Joy and the other wives strive to make change. Emily learns more about her new Commander, and Offred faces a difficult decision. Last in the series.

**10.20** **Mama's Angel.** Israeli mystery thriller, starring Sharon Stark as a prison therapist who has to treat a child murderer at the same time as she is dealing with the disappearance of her son. Full series available online.

**11.15** **First Dates.** Dapper Will is looking for a woman to share his love of the countryside, but he has never had a girlfriend and is not a natural when it comes to chatting up a lady. (R)

**12.15** **Film: Fruitvale Station.** (2013) Fact-based drama, starring Michael B Jordan. **1.45** **Film: Soutan.** (2016) Greek drama, starring Makis Papadimitriou. **3.30** Vet on the Hill. Scott tries to help a Spanish rescue cat with a chronic eye condition. (R) **4.25** Lost and Found. (R) **5.20** The Posh Frock Shop. (R) **5.45** Kirstie's Vintage Gems. (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wissper. (R) **6.20** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.30** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.35** The Secret Life of Puppies. (R) **6.40** Seaside Antics. (R) **6.45** Only the Little White Van. (R) **6.50** Simon. (R) **6.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.00** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.15** Thomas and Friends: Extraordinary Engines. (R) **7.30** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.45** Rusty Rivets. (R) **8.00** Paw Patrol. **8.15** Pirata & Capitano. **8.35** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **8.50** Floogals. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.30** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.45** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.30** Access. **10.35** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.25** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.20** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **3.15** Bad Tenants. Rogue Landlords: Disturbing the Peace. (R) **4.15** Bad Tenants. Rogue Landlords. (R) **5.15** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! (R)

**6.05** **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!** Agents chase more than £1,700 in unpaid parking fines in south-east London, and in north Wales, officers try to recover £2,000 owed by a tradesman to a former employer. (R)

**7.00** **Cricknet on 5.** England v India. Action from the fourth day of the Second Test in the five-match series, taking place at Lord's.

**7.50** **5 News Weekend.**

**8.00** **Film: Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest.** (2006) Captain Jack Sparrow battles to save his soul from the legendary Davy Jones and his fearsome sea monster. Swashbuckling adventure sequel, starring Johnny Depp and Orlando Bloom.

**9.15** **5 News Update.**

**9.20** **Film: Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest.** (2006) Concluded.

**10.55** **Film: The Expendables 2.** (2012) The mercenary team battles a rival band of hired guns who have killed one of their number. Action thriller sequel, starring Sylvester Stallone and Jean-Claude Van Damme.

**11.55** **Access.** Showbiz news and gossip.

**12.00** **Film: The Expendables 2.** (2012) Concluded. **12.50** **Orlando:** Caught on Camera. (R) **1.15** SuperCasino. **3.10** Britain's Parking Hell. (R) **4.00** The Railways That Built Britain with Chris Tarrant. (R) **4.45** House Doctor. (R)

## DIGITAL

### BBC Four

**7.00** BBC Proms 2018 **8.45** BBC Proms Encores **9.00** The Stolen Maharajah: Britain's Indian Royal **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** Mission to Mars: A Horizon Special **11.30** The Comet's Tale **12.30** Timeshift - Flights of Fancy: Pigeons and the British **1.30** Arena: American Epic **2.30** The Stolen Maharajah: Britain's Indian Royal **3.30** Close

### ITV2

**12.30** **Ninja Warrior UK** **1.30** You've Been Framed! Gold **2.25** **Film: The Smurfs** (2011) **3.25** **FYI Daily** **3.30** **Film: The Smurfs** (2011) **4.30** **Film: Ella Enchanted** (2004) **5.30** **FYI Daily** **5.35** **Film: Ella Enchanted** (2004) **6.35** **Film: Star Wars: Episode IV - A New Hope** (1977) **7.35** **FYI Daily** **7.40** **Film: Star Wars: Episode IV - A New Hope** (1977) **9.00** **Film: Skyfall** (2012) **10.05** **FYI Daily** **10.10** **Film: Skyfall** (2012) **11.55** **Family Guy** **12.55** **American Dad!** **1.45** **Ghosted** **2.15** **Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records** **2.30** Teleshopping

### ITV3

**12.50** **Rosemary & Thyme** **3.55** **Victoria** **6.00** **Agatha Christie's Poirot** **8.00** **Agatha Christie's Marple** **10.00** **The Halcyon** **12.05** **Wire in the Blood** **1.55** **Blue Murder** **3.40** **Road to Avonlea** **5.30** **ITV3 Nightscreen**

### ITV4

**5.45** **Silverstone Classic** **6.45** **Football Rivalries** **7.00** **World Series of Darts: Melbourne** **11.00** **Film: Assault on Precinct 13** (2005) **12.05** **FYI Daily** **12.10** **Film: Assault on Precinct 13** (2005) **1.10** **BRDC Formula 3 Highlights** **2.10** **The Protectors** **2.40** **ITV4 Nightscreen** **3.00** Teleshopping

### E4

**12.15** **Brooklyn Nine-Nine** **1.10** **Young Sheldon** **2.10** **The Big Bang Theory** **6.40** **Film: Iron Man 2** (2010) **9.00** **Fear the Walking Dead** **10.25** **Gogglebox** **11.30** **The Big Bang Theory** **12.25** **Ride Tube** **2.00** **Fear the Walking Dead** **3.15** **Hollyoaks**

### Film4

**11.00** **Sunshine on Leith** (2013) **1.00** **My Neighbour Totoro** (1988) **2.45** **Flight of the Navigator** (1986) **4.30** **Eragon** (2006) **6.35** **The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel** (2011) **9.00** **X-Men: Days of Future Past** (2014) **Wolverine** is sent back in time to change history and prevent a war that has devastated the world. Superhero adventure sequel, starring Hugh Jackman and Jennifer Lawrence. **11.35** **The Counsellor** (2013) **Ridley Scott's** crime thriller, starring Michael Fassbender. **1.55** **Radiator** (2014) **3.50** **Close**

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# PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY  
GUIDE TO HOME  
BUYING AND  
LETTING

## High end finish for stunning modern home

A stunning modern family home in a popular location in Colliery Drive, Bloxwich, Walsall, is a three-bedroomed detached house for sale through Webbs Estate Agents at offers over £220,000.

Having a high end contemporary finish, it lies close to all local amenities, shops and schools.

Its accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hallway, a lounge, a dining room, a conservatory, a re-fitted kitchen, guest WC, three bedrooms, a re-fitted bathroom and an en-suite. Outside there is a garage, driveway and landscaped gardens.

In more detail the lounge has a bay window to the front elevation, a window seat, a wall-mounted radiator, a contemporary-style log burner, stairs leading up to the first floor and a door to the dining room.

The dining room has patio doors to the conservatory, a wall-mounted radiator, a double glazed window to the side elevation and a door to the kitchen. There are French doors out to the rear garden. The conservatory has laminate flooring and air conditioning.

Having a double-glazed window and door to the garden, the kitchen has wall, base and drawer units, work surfaces over, an inset single drainer sink, integrated appliances and a wine cooler and a door to the inner lobby.

The inner lobby has doors to the WC and a garage. The WC has a window to the side, a wall-mounted radiator, a low level WC and a hand wash basin.

The master bedroom is a double room with built-in sliding mirrored wardrobe doors and a door leading into the en-suite.

The lovely rear garden has a border, a lawn area and decking area. Both sides of the property have gated access into the garden. The garage has an up and over door, power, lighting, and a utility area and access to the rear lobby into the kitchen.

BLOXWICH £220,000



### TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

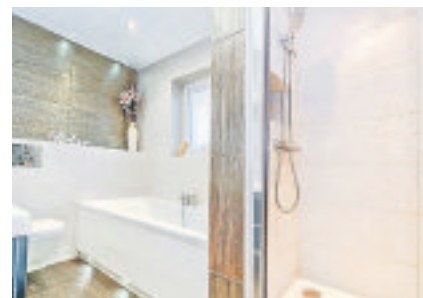
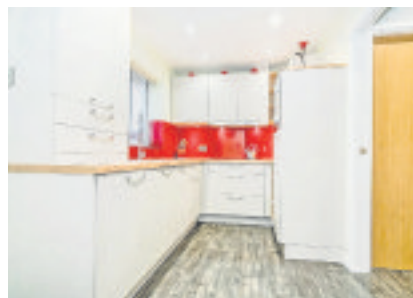
AGENT: Webbs Estate Agents

TEL: 01922 663399

EMAIL: sales@webbsestateagents.co.uk

### KEY FEATURES

Stunning family home  
Detached  
3 bedrooms  
Popular location  
Garage & driveway



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- Local area knowledge
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- Registered house hunters
- Solid marketing advice to help you sell fast

If you are thinking of selling, look no further than the estate agents in these pages for the best local advice available.







Four-bed town house is near to the new NHS hospital site

SMETHWICK

£995 PCM



This four-bedroomed three storey town house in Barrett Street, Smethwick, lies in a great location, only a stone's throw away from the new superb NHS hospital.

Ready to move into, it is available for working professionals to rent through [loveyourpostcode.com](http://loveyourpostcode.com) at £995 per calendar month, with an initial 12-month term.

This property is neutrally decorated throughout and has ample space over three floors.

It has an entrance hall, a spacious lounge area with new wooden flooring, a well maintained garden area, modern kitchen, downstairs WC. To the first floor are two spacious family bedrooms. One of these bedrooms has a Juliette balcony. All rooms are carpeted with neutral coloured walls. To the second floor are two lovely sized bedrooms with one en-suite.

Contact [loveyourpostcode.com](http://loveyourpostcode.com) on 0800 862 0870.



Five-bed residence is ideal for a family

OLDBURY

£344,950

An extended detached five-bedroomed home, 119 Tower Road, Tividale, Oldbury, has good-sized accommodation.

Within walking distance of local shops, it is for sale through Tom Giles Estate Agents at £344,950.

With gas central heating and double glazing, it stands set back from the roadside behind a driveway with parking for four/five vehicles. It also has a reception hall, a lounge/dining room with a glazed bow window to front and French doors to the rear garden. The dining room features ceramic tiled flooring.

Contact Tom Giles on 0121 552 6171.



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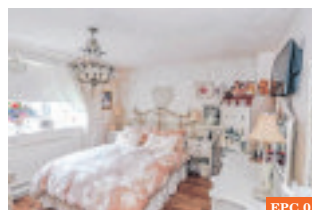
*No Fee*

*Experienced  
Sales Team*

*Established 1994*



**NEW** **Thetford Gardens, Wolverhampton**  
Wolverhampton

**EPC 0**

- Three Bedrooms
- Show Home Standard Throughout
- Kitchen Diner
- Shower Room
- Landscaped Rear Garden
- Driveway
- Viewing Essential
- Quiet Location

**\$160,000**

**Littlewood Road, Cheslyn Hay, Walsall**  
Cheslyn Hay, Walsall


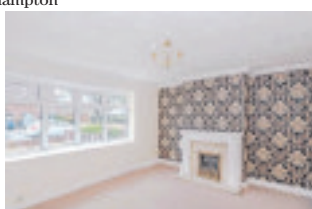
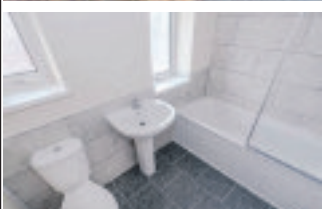
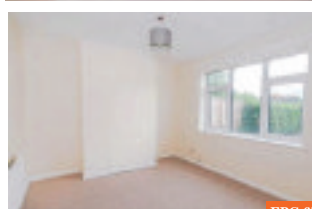



**EPC 82**

- New Build Bungalow
- Through Hallway
- Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- Driveway, Gardens
- Viewing Recommended
- No Chain

**\$199,950 Offer Over**

**NEW** **Moathouse Lane East, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton**  
Wolverhampton

**EPC 67**

- Corner Plot
- Hallway, Lounge
- Dining Room
- 3/4 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gardens
- Driveway
- No Chain

**\$144,950**

**NEW** **Abbotts Street, Walsall**  
Walsall




**EPC 62**

- Ideal First Time Buy
- End Terraced
- Kitchen, Lounge
- WC, Hall
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Gardens
- No Chain
- Viewing Recommended

**\$115,000**

**Sanstone Road, Bloxwich, Walsall**  
Bloxwich, Walsall






**EPC 0**

- Stunning Detached
- Motivated Seller
- Porch, Hallway
- Lounge, Sitting Room
- Orangery, Utility Room
- 5 Bedrooms, En-Suite
- Garage, Driveway
- Viewing Essential

**\$450,000**

**Brundard Close, Bloxwich, Walsall**  
Bloxwich, Walsall




**EPC 76**

- Modern Development
- 3 Storey Family Home
- Hallway, Kitchen
- Lounge/Diner
- 3 Bedrooms, En-Suite
- Driveway, Gardens
- No Chain
- Viewing Recommended

**\$150,000**

**Ferndown Close, Turnberry / Bloxwich, Walsall**  
Turnberry / Bloxwich, Walsall






**EPC 53**

- Sought After Location
- Deceptively Spacious
- Hallway, Lounge
- Kitchen, WC
- 4 Bedrooms, Shower Room
- Garage Conversion
- Driveway
- Gardens

**\$310,000**

**Colliery Drive, Bloxwich, Walsall**  
Bloxwich, Walsall




**EPC 59**

- Stunning Family Home
- Contemporary Finish
- Lounge, Conservatory
- Refitted Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- En-Suite
- Garage, Driveway
- Viewing Essential

**\$220,000 Offers Over**

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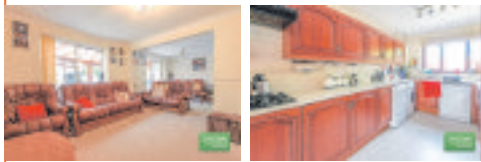
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27

The Chronicle Thursday, August 9, 2018



**Werneth Grove, Turnberry Estate**

- Extended Detached Family Home
- Four Bedrooms
- Main Lounge
- Sitting Room and Dining Area
- Conservatory
- Low Maintenance Rear Garden
- Desirable Location
- Two Bathrooms
- Off Road Parking
- EPC - TBC

£320,000



**Love Lane, Great Wyrley**

- Detached Dormer Bungalow
- Three Bedrooms
- Block Paved Driveway
- Car Port & Gated Parking
- Modern Fitted Kitchen
- EPC - D (66)

£280,000



**NO CHAIN**  
**Broad Lane, Bloxwich**

- Extended Four Bedroom Detached Home
- Two Bathrooms
- Garage & Driveway
- Private Rear Garden
- Conservatory
- EPC - E (54)

£260,000



**Astbury Close, Turnberry Estate**

- Modern Family Home
- Three Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Block Paved Driveway
- Entrance Hallway & Guest WC
- EPC - D (65)

£210,000



**Griffins Crescent, Walsall**

- 'The Kingsford' Design by Taylor Wimpey
- Popular Saddlers Brook Development
- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Easy Access to Local Towns and the M6
- Granite Tiled Flooring in Hall & Kitchen
- EPC - C (79)

£185,000



**Stafford Road, Bloxwich**

- Well Presented Detached Family Home
- Two Reception Rooms
- Recently Refurbished
- Generous Driveway and Single Garage
- Refitted Kitchen & Bathroom
- Attractive Rear Garden
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Desirable Location
- EPC - D (67)

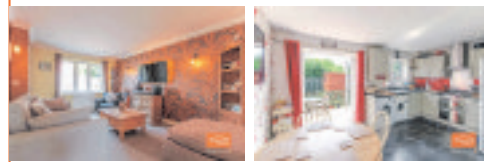
£240,000



**Penmire Grove, Rushall**

- Modern Taylor Wimpey Home
- NHBC guarantee remaining
- 'Show Home' Condition
- Three Bedrooms
- En-Suite to Master Bedroom
- EPC - C (79)

£180,000



**Harvest Grove, Bloxwich**

- Cul-de-Sac Location
- Three Bedrooms
- 0.5 Miles from Walsall Academy
- Built in 2014 by Kendrick Homes
- Remaining NHBC Guarantee
- Block Paved Driveway
- Desirable Victoria Gardens Development
- En-Suite to Master
- Close to High Street Shops
- EPC - B (83)

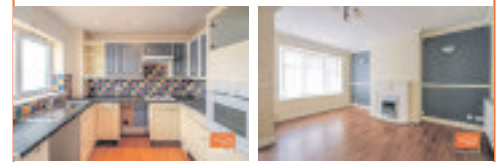
£175,000



**NO CHAIN**  
**Links Court, Turnberry Estate**

- Exclusive Over 60's Development
- One Bedroom Apartment
- Parking Space Included
- Luxury Fixtures and Fittings
- Ground Floor
- EPC - B (82)

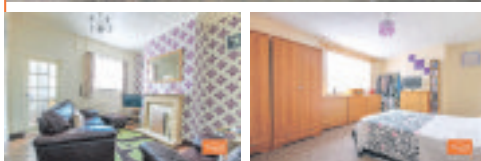
£169,950



**Ashbourne Road, Bloxwich**

- Ideal Starter Home
- Lounge
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Three Bedrooms
- Private Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking
- Close to Lower Farm Primary School
- NO CHAIN
- EPC - C (76)

£135,000



**Foster Street, Bloxwich**

- INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY
- Detached House
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Refitted Bathroom
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Sold with Long Term Tenant
- EPC E (53)

£87,950



**Cope Street, Leamore**

- Three Bedrooms & A Loft Room
- Recently Refurbished
- New Carpets Fitted
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- EPC - TBC

£129,500



**Springhill Court, Sutton Road**

- Two Bedroom Town Centre Flat
- Second Floor
- Communal Parking
- Very Good Condition Throughout
- Double Glazing & Electric Heating
- EPC - F (31)

O.I.E.O £80,000



**Station Street, Bloxwich**

- No Upward Chain
- Ground Floor
- Lease - 106 Years Remaining
- Close To Train Station (0.3 miles)
- Located Just Off Bloxwich High Street
- EPC - E (44)

£75,000

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# Exclusive New Car clearance offers at Autosales ŠKODA

Due to new legislation these cars must be sold by 31 August!



ŠKODA



## ŠKODA KODIAQ

ESTATE 2.0 TDI SE DSG 7-SEATER

Spec includes: 18" Elbrus alloy wheels > Headlight washers > Dash inserts > Gear shift lever with chrome frame and black gloss insert > Courtesy lights in the front > Cruise control > Bolero radio with 8" touchscreen display > Digital voice enhancement > Additional four loudspeakers > Dual-zone climate control with humidity sensor and control > Rear parking sensors > Light assistant (including coming home, leaving home and tunnel light) > Light and rain sensor > Auto-dimming rear view mirror > Privacy glass > Net system in boot

**£3,750**

DEPOSIT  
CONTRIBUTION

**£1,749**

CUSTOMER  
DEPOSIT

**£275**

PER  
MONTH\*

**4.9%**

APR  
REPRESENTATIVE#

Solutions Personal Contract Plan\* Representative Example for ŠKODA KODIAQ Estate 2.0 TDI SE DSG 7-seater subject to a 42 month, 10,000 miles per annum agreement.

RETAIL CASH PRICE	CASH PRICE OF OPTIONAL EXTRA	DURATION	41 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF	ŠKODA DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTION	CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	TOTAL DEPOSIT	ACCEPTANCE FEE	OPTIONAL FINAL PAYMENT	OPTION TO PURCHASE FEE	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE BY CUSTOMER	TOTAL AMOUNT OF CREDIT	REPRESENTATIVE APR	RATE OF INTEREST	EXCESS MILEAGE
£26,995	£0	42 months	£274.67	£3,750	£1,749	£5,499	£0	£13,130.10	£10	£29,900.57	£26,150.57	£21,496.00	4.9%	4.86% fixed	8.4 p/mile

Autosales Ltd is a broker and not a lender and can introduce you to a limited number of lenders, who may pay us for introducing you to them. #At the end of the agreement there are three options: i) pay the optional final payment and own the vehicle; ii) return the vehicle: subject to excess mileage and fair wear and tear, charges may apply; or iii) replace; part exchange the vehicle. With Solutions Personal Contract Plan. 18s+. \*Monthly payment based on ŠKODA KODIAQ Estate 2.0 TDI SE DSG 7-seater at £26,995 OTR on a 42-month, 35,000 mile agreement. Subject to availability and status. T&Cs apply. Offer available when ordered when ordered by 31 August 2018 from participating retailers. Offers are not available in conjunction with any other offer and may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Accurate at time of publication. Freepost ŠKODA Financial Services.



## ŠKODA KAROQ

ESTATE 2.0 TDI SE L 4X4

Spec includes: metallic paint > 18" Braga alloy wheels > Chrome roof rails > Full LED headlights with adaptive front light system and LED daytime running lights > Alcantara\* upholstery > Heated front seats > Front and rear parking sensors > Rear-view camera > Amundsen satellite navigation with 8" touchscreen display with Maps Europe > SD card, voice control and integrated Wi-Fi > Keyless entry and start/stop

**£2,500**

DEPOSIT  
CONTRIBUTION

**£3,189**

CUSTOMER  
DEPOSIT

**£308**

PER  
MONTH\*

**6.8%** APR  
REPRESENTATIVE\*

Solutions Personal Contract Plan\* Representative Example for ŠKODA KAROQ ESTATE 2.0 TDI SE L subject to a 42 month, 10,000 miles per annum agreement.

RETAIL CASH PRICE	CASH PRICE OF OPTIONAL EXTRA	DURATION	41 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF	ŠKODA DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTION	CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	TOTAL DEPOSIT	ACCEPTANCE FEE
£27,295	£0	42 months	£308	£2,500	£3,189	£5,689	£0
OPTIONAL FINAL PAYMENT	OPTION TO PURCHASE FEE	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE BY CUSTOMER	TOTAL AMOUNT OF CREDIT	REPRESENTATIVE APR	RATE OF INTEREST	EXCESS MILEAGE
£13,016.70	£10	£31,337.55	£28,837.55	£21,606.00	6.8%	6.81% fixed	8.4 p/mile

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## ŠKODA FABIA

HATCH 1.0 TSI SE

Spec includes: > metallic paint > 15" Mato alloy wheels > Rear parking sensors > Alarm with interior monitoring > Front assist > Bolero radio with 6.5" touchscreen display > Surround sound package with six speakers > Smartlink\*

**£2,000**

DEPOSIT  
CONTRIBUTION

**£799**

CUSTOMER  
DEPOSIT

**£178**

PER  
MONTH\*

**3.9%** APR  
REPRESENTATIVE\*

Solutions Personal Contract Plan\* Representative Example for ŠKODA FABIA HATCH 1.0 TSI SE subject to a 42 month, 10,000 miles per annum agreement.

RETAIL CASH PRICE	CASH PRICE OF OPTIONAL EXTRA	DURATION	41 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF	ŠKODA DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTION	CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	TOTAL DEPOSIT	ACCEPTANCE FEE
£13,995	£0	42 months	£177.73	£2,000	£799	£2,799	£0
OPTIONAL FINAL PAYMENT	OPTION TO PURCHASE FEE	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE BY CUSTOMER	TOTAL AMOUNT OF CREDIT	REPRESENTATIVE APR	RATE OF INTEREST	EXCESS MILEAGE
£4,983.30	£10	£15,079.23	£13,079.23	£11,196	3.9%	3.83% fixed	3.6 p/mile

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## Autosales ŠKODA

Unit 1 Attwood Road, Zone 1, Burntwood Business Park WS7 3GJ (Near Cannock) ☎ 01543 450000 🌐 www.autosalesgroup.co.uk

Images are for illustrative purposes only. Models shown are not to UK specification and may include features or options which are not available in the UK.

Official fuel consumption for the ŠKODA range in mpg (litres/100km): Urban 31.0 (9.1) to 72.4 (3.9); Extra Urban 44.1 (6.4) to 88.3 (3.2); Combined 38.2 (7.4) to 80.7 (3.5). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the ŠKODA range are 170 to 90 g/km. Standard EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.



# Solid seller becomes even better as Ceed moves on

By Ian Donaldson

There's something missing on the latest Kia, although you may hardly notice. Or indeed care. Especially as it's all about the way the name is presented, with the over complicated and now former c'eed becoming simply Ceed.

It's the sort of thing that bothers car makers rather more than the folk who buy their product, but from now on it's simply Ceed – as in a car for the Community of Europe, with European Design.

This latest version of a car that has been a solid seller since they started to appear in 2006 looks a lot like the old one (no bad thing) but sharpened up all round and a little bit wider but lower for a more athletic look.

More practically, the result is a bigger boot and more shoulder room for rear seat passengers in this five-door hatchback, which continues to offer enough space for a growing family and their luggage.

The dashboard looks more upmarket and modern while, thankfully, keeping enough old fashioned buttons to make life for the driver both more convenient and safer than relying too much on the finger dabs and swipes on a touchscreen.

There's a choice of three engines, two petrol and one diesel. Leading the petrol charge is an undated version of the existing 1.0 litre with 118bhp. More power is available from a new 1.4 litre petrol unit which replaces the old and larger 1.6 and with 138bhp on tap is actually



The dashboard looks more upmarket and modern modestly more potent. It's also usefully economical, with 48.7mpg on the new official test and 132g/km of emissions.

Showing there's life in diesels yet, your Ceed can have a new 1.6 litre 114bhp powerplant on board. It's 99g/km emissions figure will be a temptation to people buying a new Ceed for business use and so will its 74.3mpg official economy boast.

As standard all three engines are mated to a crisp-changing six-speed manual gearbox; a seven-speed auto is an option on the diesel and 1.4 petrol variants.

Eking our every last drop of fuel, Ceed's with a new ECO pack slip through the air more easily thanks to a flap that blanks out the radiator grille when there is no need for total engine cooling and lowered suspension and an underbody cover help too. So too do special tyres that take less effort to roll along the road.

The newcomer is available in four grades, starting with '2' and moving through Blue Edition and '3' to top out with the bells and whistles First Edition. Prices range from £18,295 for a 1.0 litre in '2' spec to £26,850 for a First Edition 1.4 with auto gears. Diesels start at £19,545 and 1.4 petrols at £21,095.

Even the entry level Ceed lacks for little, taking in cruise control, 16ins alloy wheels, electric windows all round, air conditioning, reversing camera, DAB radio, Bluetooth and Android Auto and Apple CarPlay.

A suite of safety additions include blind spot collision warning and forward collision avoidance that recognises if you close too quickly on a vehicle or pedestrian and will start braking if you don't.

Kia pointed us towards the Tatra mountains in Slovakia on the Ceed's press launch with the new 1.6 diesel initially doing the hard work.

It didn't take many kilometres to appreciate the car's newfound quietness or a ride that smoothly laughed off the odd bit of Slovakian road surface that wasn't spirit level flat.

Turning to the new Ceed, but with the new 1.4 petrol engine aboard, produced a car transformed, with more immediate performance on tap and a more confident feel on the corners. This time the 8.6 seconds to 62mph felt briskly correct.

Even hampered on the economy front by an (optional) automatic gearbox, the car made a compelling case for petrol with 54.5mpg on the trip readout. It's the one to choose this time unless you absolutely need to wring out every last drop of fuel.



The car looks a lot like the old one but sharpened up all round

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# Cheeky styling, practical, fun to drive

By John Griffiths

**There can be few people – car buffs or not – who don't know the name Corsa.**

That's because Vauxhall's supermini has been around for 25 years and comes in so many guises that it has remained a big hit with British motorists, rarely falling out of the top ten of their favourite cars.

Why? Well its cheeky styling, practicality, economy and what is for many an essential factor – it's fun to drive.

No more so than the test car, a three-door version powered by Vauxhall's 1.4 litre petrol engine and in sports-themed SRI trim. Its list price is £14,345 but that's before some of the extra showcased on the test car, which we'll come to later.

The engine turns out 100PS of power, but thanks to turbocharging has a healthy 200Nm of torque (that compares to 75Ps and 130Nm for the naturally aspirated 1.4). That of course translates into livelier performance and acceleration, but also changes its character – more relaxed, less gearchanging and more refined.

There are more powerful versions such as the new 1.6 GSI and the 210Ps Corsa VXR, but the SRI strikes a balance between the lower-powered economy versions and the more focussed sports models with their firmer ride and higher costs.

Not that the SRI is anything less than dynamic: Vauxhall has had plenty of time to hone that impressive balance between that 'on rails' cornering feel with excellent ride comfort for a supermini.

The Corsa has, of course, grown over the years so seats four (or five at a squeeze) with plenty of head and leg room, front and back.



The SRI's interior is attractive

The boot has 280 litres of luggage space, rising to 1,000 litres if you fold the rear seats down.

The SRI's interior is attractive, with quality upholstery and a car-wide, colour-coded metallic strip (in this case red) breaking up the black of the dash. A comprehensive colour touch screen control dominates the centre console, with climate control and other switches neatly arranged. There are remote controls on the steering wheel too.

On the road the SRI is feisty, with a brisk 0 to 62mph sprint time of 11 seconds but it actually feels more sporty than that due to its quick turn-in and excellent balance through corners. The turbo's torque means its potential can be fulfilled in a more relaxed, grown-up manner.

The engine is smooth and free-revving, again striking a decent balance – producing a sporty growl under determined acceleration but very much in the background for relaxed cruising.



Vauxhall has clearly kept up with motorists' tastes as well as technology in evolving the Corsa to keep it well within top ten sales slot

Its official fuel average is 55.4mpg, with CO2 emissions of 119g/km.

The SRI comes as standard with Vauxhall's Intellilink audio/phone system, air conditioning, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel (with finger/thumb controls for cruise, phone and audio), heated windscreen, automatic lights, rain sensitive wipers and an array of safety systems from six airbags to an electronic stability programme.

As well as the body-coloured trim strip

across the dash, the SRI is distinguished by its black B-pillars, 16-inch black alloy wheels and chrome-effect surrounds for the fog lights.

The test car was fitted with Vauxhall's OnStar system (a £415 option) which puts you in touch with a human 'assistant' and give access to a whole range of services. The most important of these is probably emergency assistance – at the touch of a button you can contact the operator (who will know where the car is even if you don't) and summon help.

The front and rear parking sensors added £465 and the navigation system £650.

Corsa prices start at £11,045 and the petrol-driven range includes a 1.4 (75 and 90PS) and 1.0 turbo options, with SRI trim available with a choice of engines. The test car is rated at group 10E for insurance purposes.

Vauxhall has clearly kept up with motorists' tastes as well as technology in evolving the Corsa to keep it well within the top ten sales slot.

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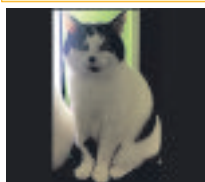
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**WALSALL COUNCIL LICENSING ACT 2003 NOTICE OF APPLICATION VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENCE**

Premises: Unit 3, Bridge House, 47-55 Bridge Street, Walsall WS1 1JQ

Notice is hereby given that **MV Leisure UK Ltd** has applied to Walsall Council as the Licensing Authority for the variation of a premises licence under S.34 of the Licensing Act 2003.

**The Proposed Variation:**

To extend provision of live music - Monday to Friday 16:00 to 04:30; Saturday & Sunday 12:00 to 04:30.

To extend provision of recorded music, performance of dance anything of a similar description to live music, recorded music, performance of dance, sale of alcohol - Monday to Sunday 12:00 to 04:30. To extend the opening hours Monday to Sunday 07:00 to 05:00. Plus non-standard timings - Christmas Eve, New Year's Eve, Bank Holidays and any other public holidays, finish time extended by one hour.

Anyone who wishes to make representations regarding this application must give notice in writing to: The Licensing Unit, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1TP. Representations must be received no later than **27th August 2018**.

The Application Record and Register may be viewed during normal office hours at the above address.

It is an offence under Section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is up to level 5 on the standard scale (£5000).

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Lee Hendrie alongside Alan Wright, Gareth Barry, George Boateng, Ian Taylor, Mark Delaney, and Ugo Ehiogu



Lee Hendrie gives youngsters a chance to get back into the game



Lee Hendrie knows the highs and lows of football



Looking back – Lee Hendrie alongside Gareth Barry

# Hendrie helps lead way – in or out of football

## SPORTING FEATURE

By Luke Hatfield

**HE made 271 appearances for Villa, scoring 27 goals along the way – but now Lee Hendrie is giving something back to the game, and the club, which gave him so much.**

Making his first-team debut for the club he supported as a boy, it was far from a dream start for the then 18-year-old who earned himself a sending off during a 1-0 defeat to QPR in December 1995.

Fast forward two decades and it's experiences like that which give him hope that he can be the ideal role model to the youth now dreaming of doing exactly what he did as a fresh-faced midfielder.

Joining fellow former Villa youth player Ryan Amoo, the 41-year-old set-up the Lee Hendrie Academy three years ago, which aims to help young footballers find a way back into the game which so often chews up and spits out thousands of kids each year.

He understands that it's the 'love' of the game which keeps kids coming back to a sport which is renowned for putting the best on a pedestal, while seemingly forgetting those who never quite achieved the same acclaim.

### Buzz

"I love football and I always want to be involved in football so, I like to watch football, I like to talk about football, I like to coach football," he beams.

It's safe to say the buzz of scoring goals and crunching tackles is still strong, even if he's not the one doing it.

"Every avenue that I can give something back to the game, that's what I've took on-board," he adds. "I set up the Academy just to help a few of these youngsters get on their feet."

"Some of the lads are potentially not going to get into a football club but some of these lads leave school at 16, and where do they go from there?"

It's a great question. For every Lee Hendrie in the world, there are countless players who never quite made it. Those, who for one reason or another, didn't get offered a professional contract. Where do they go? Often they end up playing back at a grassroots level, far away from the bright lights of the Premier League, looking for the next chance to showcase their

**"If I see potential in someone I'll try and get them into a football club so they can get back on the ladder"**

talents to someone who might be able to give them a chance to play the sport they love for a living.

Plenty consider it the end of their dream, but Hendrie doesn't think that should be the case.

"I just think there's so much avenue for youngsters to get back into the game," he insists. "My ideal opportunity is that we get a very good foundation of young players that have maybe been released from football clubs, and it gives them another way of trying to get back into football, because certain kids at 16 get released from clubs and they think it's finished and it's over, but it's not."

"If I see potential in someone I'll certainly try and get them into a football club so they can get back on the ladder and try and prove a point to clubs."

What has helped for Hendrie, Amoo and those kids who have become a part of their academy set-up, is the former midfielder's links with the biggest club in the Midlands.

Recently creating a link with the Aston Villa Foundation, academy members now have a true pathway into professional football – and one willing to provide a chance to youth. Jack Grealish, Andre Green, Marc Albrighton, Gabriel Agbonlahor and even Gary Cahill are notable products of Villa's youth system who followed Hendrie.

All of those aforementioned players played first-team football at Villa Park, and while he understands that won't be the case for all of those under his wing, the one-time England international wants to give them all that chance.

"This will be our fourth year coming around," he said. "Having that link with Villa now is extra spe-

cial because we can take the lads up and play friendly games at Bodmoor Heath. There have been a couple of lads we've sent in on-trial, there's plenty of potential players out there in grassroots football that don't get the opportunity to prove themselves or approach a professional club. I've sent a few lads down to Villa and they've been playing with the under-23s and been on three or four-week trials.

"I'd like it to be (a feeder for Villa). We run alongside Villa and their foundation, it's not the academy that they have at Bodmoor Heath every day."

"But Villa have done the foundation side of it where they're talking to the grassroots kids and you know they're going to get a lot of kids come through that system. Having that tie with them and being associated with them, it's a key factor for us that they can have a feel of actually going in and playing at Bodmoor Heath and maybe getting themselves a trial if they're good enough to get put forward."

"It's been a great connection, having that with the club itself."

"We do the soccer camps that are really good, we've taken four or five lads, eight, nine, 10-year-olds that have signed for Villa which has been a great advert for what we do."

### Contrast

It's a long slog from the youth processes of old, when prospects wouldn't be showered with cash and have clubs deciding their every move.

Nowadays promising stars are earning countless sums before they've even kicked a ball. It's a huge contrast to the days of cleaning senior players' boots after a matchday.

"Me and Ryan came through the youth system ourselves, the old one where we did the boot cleaning and I think these days it's just a matter of giving these kids some guidance on where we might have gone wrong and might have made the wrong decisions," adds Hendrie.

"The main thing for me is learning a lot of respect. Sometimes these young kids get knocked for not having respect for people, and it's respecting the game as well as people. We're pretty hard on the lads because we want to get the best out of these kids. I've been through tough times myself and I've had to dig deep, and at the same time I've been at the top."

## Boxing heroes hit bar for sporting dinner

BOXING fans have the chance to meet Barry McGuigan and Ray Mancini at a sporting dinner taking place in Cannock next month.

The duo will appear at Bar Sport's Premier Suite in High Green, on Saturday, September 15.

McGuigan, nicknamed The Clones Cyclone, is a former WBA featherweight world champion and won a gold medal at the 1978 Commonwealth Games. He is now a successful boxing promoter and the president of the Professional Boxing Association.

American Mancini, nicknamed Boom Boom, competed from 1979-92.

He held the WBA lightweight title from 1982 to 1984 and has also worked as an actor after hanging up his gloves. His father, Lenny Mancini, was also a successful boxer.

For more information or to book tickets for the sporting dinner call Bar Sport in Cannock on 01543 572092 or 01543 503859 or visit <https://www.facebook.com/Barsportcannock> for more details and prices.

## Archie rewrites record books with a triple ton

TEENAGE cricket ace Archie O'Hara rewrote the record books as he smashed a superb triple century for Staffordshire under-17s.

O'Hara, who plays club cricket for Wolverhampton, blasted an unbeaten 306 in his side's draw with Northamptonshire at Holcot.

The 17-year-old opener's score was a new county record, while his second wicket partnership with Dan Grounds was the highest-ever recorded in a Staffordshire under-17 match.

O'Hara's innings of 449 balls included 37 fours and a six and helped Staffordshire to amass a total of 570-7 declared.

Delighted coach Jamie Turner said: "It was a brilliant innings to watch."

"Archie is a quality player who is naturally aggressive. In this instance, he showed a great deal of patience and he didn't give up a chance from the first ball to the last. His partnership with Dan was crucial."

"For such a young player he showed a huge amount of maturity. It was very impressive."

## League earns the Respect of judges

THE Stourbridge & District Football League has picked up the Respect Award at inaugural The FA and McDonald's Grassroots Football Awards.

The league was one of the 13 different category winners, picked from more than 2,900 nominations.

The awards recognise and celebrate the work of individuals and groups to instill The FA's PRIDE values – Progressive, Respectful, Inclusive, Determined and Excellent – whilst making a positive difference in their club, league or local community.

The FA worked alongside respective County FAs to select local winners. The regional list of recipients was deliberated upon by a panel at Wembley and the winners recognised and celebrated at Sunday's Community Shield.

Nathan French, the FA's National Respect Project Manager, said: "The FA and McDonald's Grassroots Football Awards capture the essence of all that is good about football, and give national recognition to excellent work that might otherwise go under the radar."





## Comfortable victory for Darlaston

**Darlaston Town 1 Bromyard 0**  
AN opening day crowd of 137 saw Darlaston emerge with three points to get their 2018/19 season off to a good start. Despite the scoreline Darlaston were comfortable winners.

Darlaston were controlling the pace of the game with some excellent passing moves but they lacked the cutting edge in front of goal.

Bolzon and Mayne were both off target as pressure mounted on the overworked Bromyard defence with Dan Tonks and Cameron Green standing resolute at the heart of the visitors defence.

Despite the pressure from the home side it was the visitors who had a glorious chance to open the scoring in the 31st minute. A four man move from their own penalty area resulted in Matthew Croucher Smith finding space beyond the Darlaston the impressive striker unleashed a superb angled drive from 18 yards which was superbly tipped over the bar by debutant keeper Liam Whittaker, acrobatically diving high to his right.

Despite fairly constant pressure the half ended goalless. The second half started pretty much the same as the first half with Darlaston on top.

Then on 51 minutes, Daniel Bolzon who had caused the visiting defenders plenty of problems had suffered several heavy challenges. Wage was the culprit and Jones stepped up to take the free kick, crossing to the far post where Luke Charlton stole in to head home from six yards, much to the delight of his fellow players and the home supporters.

This Saturday Darlaston travel to York Road Oldbury to play Bustleholme KO 3.00pm.

## Goalie Arnold is Khalsa draw hero

**Long Eaton 1 Sporting Khalsa 1**  
SAM Arnold was the hero for Khalsa as his second half penalty save earned a hard-fought for point on the road.

Khalsa had the better of the opening exchanges, Alex Perry rattling the crossbar from range on 17 minutes and five minutes later Dave Meese forcing the home defence to block two separate shots.

The home side began to swing the momentum back and on 38 minutes took the lead, Tom Gamblen firing an effort from outside the box past Arnold and into the bottom right-hand corner.

Khalsa immediately set about setting the record straight, and just before the half-time whistle, summer signing Lee Chilton grabbed his first for Khalsa, smashing a brilliant 25-yard free kick past Scott Low.

Long Eaton's chance to retake the lead came on 58 minutes when Robinson was judged to have fouled in the box and Zak Goodson hit a tame spot kick which Arnold kept out.

## Batting aces secure win over Walsall

JAKE Sammons hit 60 and Adam Din scored 45 in a Moseley total of 215 all out against Walsall in the Birmingham League Premier with Luke Stynes taking 4-44 for the visitors.

Left with 59 overs to reach their target, Walsall slumped to 52-5 and then 141 all out, as Yadvinder Singh took 3-24, and Alex Thomson, fresh from 12th man duties for England, during the Test match, picked up 3-29. The 55-over programme is now at an end. Just seven 50-over games remain.

Harborne lead the way in division two thanks to a 152-run defeat of Streetly.

Pelsall's Dan Wale dominated in his side's 46-run win over Stratford that moves them up to fifth in the table. Wale who came to the wicket at 46-5 and hit 46 from 43 balls.

His effort, helped by 31 from Waqar Ahmed, saw Pelsall to 180 all out after James Urquhart took 4-39 and Archie Walker picked up 3-60. Wale the went to work with the ball, finishing with 5-26 as Stratford slumped to 134 all out.

Ryan Brown chipped in with 4-35. In the Staffs Clubs Championship, Aldridge overcame neighbours Bloxwich by 13 runs. Aldridge hit 203-9 in their 50 overs, but Bloxwich could only muster up 190 in reply.

A 52 from both Mohammed Masood Arshad and Salim Khan took Walsall YPF to 247 all out against Aldridge Seconds, who fell 38 short at 209, with Imran Bashir making 61.

Rushall easily won by six wickets, bowling out Codsall for 106, Alan Dunn with 6-25, and then racking up the total in 20.5 overs.

# KEATES AIMS TO BOLSTER SQUAD

**DEAN Keates is hopeful Walsall will make more signings before the transfer window closes – with the boss entering into a bidding war with Coventry for striker Ama Bakayoko.**

The Saddlers had thought their believed six-figure fee with Bristol Rovers for the 22-year-old was exclusive.

In any event, he was left out of Walsall's squad as they kicked off the 2018/19 campaign by securing a 2-1 victory over Plymouth.

The match came just 24 hours after Keates had bolstered his ranks with the signings of Jack Fitzwater, Kane Wilson and Morgan Ferrier, who all proved their worth after Walsall got their season off to a flier against Plymouth.

And while he can still sign players on loan until the end of the month, the boss is hopeful of making additions before the window for permanent transfers closes today (Thursday). "I would like to think that we will add one or two more over the next few days," Keates said. "The loan window will still be open which is to our advantage."

From the first whistle, Walsall were aggressive and took the game to their opponents as they looked to play on the front foot. They could have taken the lead after just a few minutes only for Ferrier to be denied following an outstanding run from Josh Ginnelly.

Walsall's start was so bright, they forced five corners in the opening nine minutes.

It was Plymouth though who almost opened the scoring from a set-piece, with Scott Wootton heading over a Conor Grant delivery.

Nevertheless, it was Keates' men who were on top. Defending in two banks of four, they kept their shape superbly. And that meant – whenever Plymouth did have the ball – they had to pass it quickly and with real purpose to break through. By and large though, the Saddlers stayed firm.

They should have taken the lead when George Dobson won the ball high up the pitch before



Nicky Devlin takes on Plymouth goalkeeper Matt Macey during the Championship clash

finding Andy Cook in the box. But the striker shifted the ball onto his favoured right-foot. And that allowed Wootton to block his strike at goal.

The only thing that had been lacking from the Saddlers game was the killer instinct needed to put the ball in the net. And they were made to pay when they gave away a free-kick just inside their half in the 40th minute.

Grant whipped the ball in – the defence went to sleep – and Ryan Edwards fired in smartly to give his side the lead. It was a devastating blow.

But Walsall rallied immediately. Zeli Ismail hit the byline before sending in a dangerous cross which Ferrier was just unable to convert from close range. The lively frontman – who was en-

joying an outstanding debut – then raced past Joe Riley in the box only to be hacked to the floor by the full-back.

It was Cook who took the penalty on the stroke of half-time. And while his initial effort was saved by Macey, he reacted quickest to fire in the rebound. The goal was no more than the Saddlers deserved as they made their way off at the break. And they continued on the front foot after the interval. It was just past the hour mark when they grabbed the lead in spectacular fashion.

After substitute Kieron Morris was fouled on the edge of the area, Luke Leahy stepped up to take the resultant set-piece, beautifully curled away from Macey into the corner.

## Hunters off to a perfect home start

**Sikh Hunters 3 Old Wulfrunians 0**  
SIKH Hunters' first foray into Step 7 football got off to the perfect start on Saturday as they defeated last season's third place side and one of the favourites for promotion, Old Wulfrunians.

Ashley Smith had a free kick tipped around the post by the Old Wulfs goalkeeper while Haynes had to be alert at the other end with a free kick that bounced awkwardly in front of him. As the half wore on, the home side dominated, with Tyrone Atkinson and Mitch Lawley both going close before Hunters took the lead on 26 minutes.

A long kick from Haynes was flicked on well by Atkinson into the path of Hinesh Patel. He jinked his way to the edge of the area before lashing home left footed leaving the goalkeeper grasping at thin air.

They deservedly doubled their advantage just before half-time. A Hunters corner was only half cleared to Patel 30 yards from goal, he drifted out to the left and beat two players to get to the byline before cutting the ball back to his strike partner Atkinson who swept it home.

The second half was evenly matched with Hunters keeping their opponents at arms length. On 70 minutes, Danny Bell picked the ball up on the left wing, under challenges he made his way into the box to take a shot.

Although not the cleanest of strikes, the placement meant it was past the keeper's dive and into the far corner for an early contender for goal of the season.

This Saturday, Hunters are at home again as they host Droitwich Spa at their Long Lane Park home. Kick off – 3pm.

## Sunshine start for promoted Wood

**Walsall Wood 3 Romulus 2**  
NEWLY-PROMOTED Wood kicked off their Total Motion Midland Premier League season with a 3-2 win over Romulus at Oak Park.

A crowd of 146 turned out in glorious sunshine, with Wood leading 2-0 at half-time thanks to goals from Paul Sullivan and Peter Till. Romulus hit back with a brace from Mitch Piggon, but Sullivan had the last word with his own double strike, notching a 64-minute winner for Gary Birch's side.

★★★

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